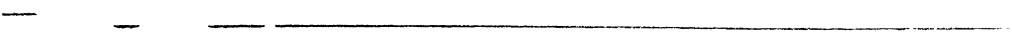




# INDIA'S PRINCES

SHORT LIFE SKETCHES OF THE NATIVE RULERS OF INDIA.





# INDIA'S PRINCES.

A SOUVENIR OF THE  
IMPERIAL ASSEMBLAGE AT DELHI,  
IN 1903.

London and Bombay

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1903







# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

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	PAGE
HIS HIGHNESS PERTAB SINGH, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF KASHMIR AND JAMU	2
HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA'S PALACE AND BOAT, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR ...	4
ISCARDS: SOLDIERS OF THE MAHARAJA OF KASHMIR ... ..	9
SRINAGAR FROM THE SECOND BRIDGE ... ..	13
HIS HIGHNESS RAJINDAR SINGH, MAHARAJA OF PATIALA ... ..	18
HIS HIGHNESS JAGATJIT SINGH, MAHARAJA OF KAPURTHALLA ... ..	30
THE DURBAR HALL, KAPURTHALLA ... ..	33
HIS HIGHNESS JAGATJIT SINGH, RAJA OF KAPURTHALLA ... ..	37
THE MAHARAJA'S STATE ELEPHANT ... ..	39
THE TOWN OF KAPURTHALLA ... ..	<i>face</i> 40, 41
THE PALACE, UDÁIPUR ... ..	47
UDÁIPUR ... ..	53
HIS HIGHNESS SIR SAWA MADHO SINGH, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF JEYPURE ...	56
THE DEWAN SAHEB, JEYPURE ... ..	63
HIS HIGHNESS RAJ RAJISHWAR MAHARAJ ADHIRAJ SIR JASWANT SINGH BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF JODHPUR ... ..	68
THE PALACE AT ULWAR, RIVER VIEW ... ..	85
HIS HIGHNESS BRAJINDRA SAWAI SIR JASWANT SINGH BAHADUR JANG, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF BHARTPUR ... ..	90
THE FORT SURROUNDED BY CANAL, BHARTPUR ... ..	96
HIS HIGHNESS SHIVAJI RAO HOLKAR, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF INDORE ...	98
ENTRANCE GATE OF MAHARAJA HOLKAR PALACE, INDORE ... ..	101
RIVER VIEW BATHING GHÂT AND TEMPLE, INDORE ... ..	105
HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SCINDIA ... ..	110
THE YOUNG MAHARAJA AND HIS OFFICIAL GUARDIAN, SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN, K.C.S.I., AND COURT .. ..	115

	PAGE
THE GREAT SAS BAHU TEMPLE, GWALIOR . . . . .	120
THE MAN MANDIR PALACE, GWALIOR . . . . .	125
HER HIGHNESS SHAH JEHAN, BEGUM OF BHOPAL, G.C.S.I., C.S.E. . . . .	128
TEMPLE, BHOPAL CITY . . . . .	133
HER HIGHNESS THE BEGUM'S SON-IN-LAW AND TWO GRANDSONS . . . . .	137
HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SIR SYAJI RAO SEVA KHASKHEL SAMSHER BAHADUR, FARZAND-I-KUASHI-DOWLAT-I, INGLESIA G.C.S.I., GAEKWAR OF BARODA . . . . .	142
THE NAZAR BAGH PALACE, BARODA . . . . .	151
THE MAHA RAO OF CUTCH . . . . .	156
THE LATE REGENT OF KOLHAPUR . . . . .	166
VAZIR BAHADUR-DIN . . . . .	176
HIS HIGHNESS NAWAB SAHEB BAHADUR KHANJI MOHOBAT KHANJI, G.C.I.E. . . . .	187
HIS HIGHNESS NAWAB SIR TAKHTSINGJI, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF BHAVNAGAR, KATHIAWAR . . . . .	194
M. M. BHOWNAGREE, ESQ., C.I.E. . . . .	199
HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SIR MANSINGJI, K.C.S.I., RAJ SAHEB OF DHIRANGADRA . . . . .	204
HIS HIGHNESS WHAGJI, K.C.I.E., THAKORE SAHEB OF MORVI . . . . .	210
HIS HIGHNESS SIR BHAGVAT SINHI, K.C.I.E., LL.D., D.C.L., THAKORE SAHEB OF GONDAL . . . . .	216
HIS HIGHNESS MIR MAHABUB ALI KHAN BAHADUR ASAF JAH, G.C.S.I., NIZAM OF HYDERABAD . . . . .	226
A STREET IN HYDERABAD CITY . . . . .	235
HIS HIGHNESS SRI CHAMA RAJENDRA WOODYAR BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF MYSORE . . . . .	248
SIR KANTIRAVA KRISTNA RAJA WOODYAR BAHADUR, THE LATE RAJA OF MYSORE, AND THE FAMOUS IVORY THRONE . . . . .	255
HIS HIGHNESS VANCHI BALA RAMA VARMA KULASEKHARA KIRITAPATI, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE . . . . .	260
HER HIGHNESS LAKSHMI BHYE, SENIOR RANEE, TRAVANCORE . . . . .	263
HER HIGHNESS PARVATI BHYE, JUNIOR RANEE, TRAVANCORE . . . . .	263
ENTRANCE TO THE PALPANAVAPURAM PALACE, TREVANDRUM . . . . .	267





HIS HIGHNESS PERTAB SINGH, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF KASHMIR AND JAMU.

# THE PUNJAUB.

## KASHMIR.

HIS HIGHNESS PERTAB SINGH, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF KASHMIR AND JAMU.



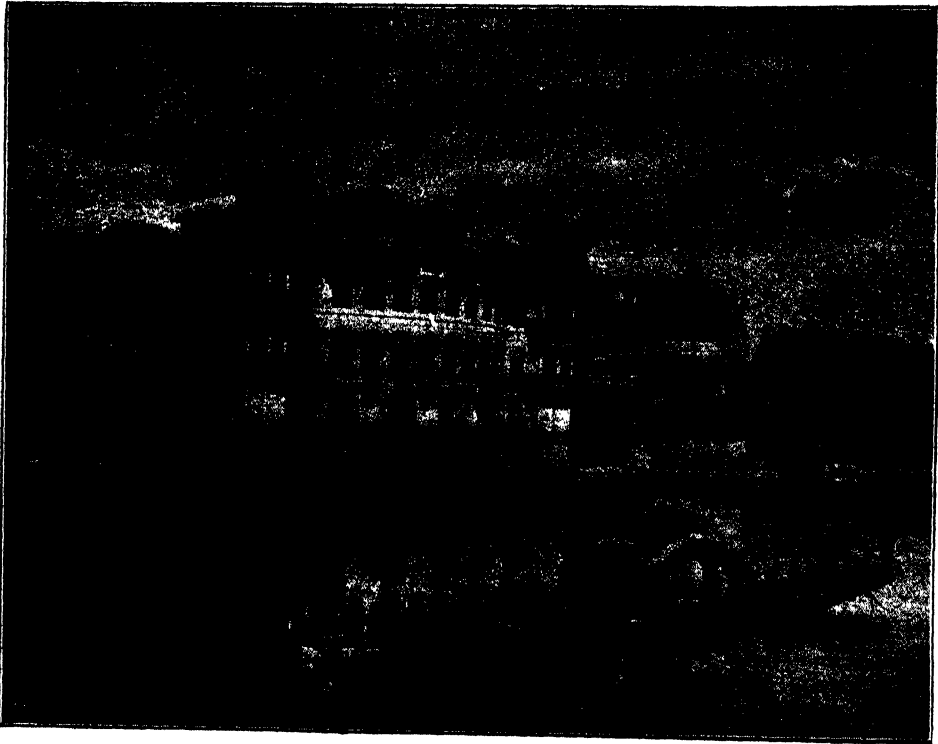
HE native state of Kashmir, which includes not only Kashmir proper, but also the territory of Jamu, is situated at the base of the northernmost portion of the stupendous range of the Himalayas. The principality is in political relationship with the Punjab Government. Its area is estimated at 80,000 square miles, with a population of over a million and a half, and a revenue of about £90,000. The Valley of Kashmir is a veritable earthly paradise, and perhaps the loveliest spot in the whole world; its almost undescrivable beauties are enhanced by the immense chain of snow-clad mountains which encircle it, whose lofty peaks seem to pierce the clouds, and whose rugged sides, grandly desolate, form a formidable rocky bulwark against northern foes; parts of this chain of mountains have their sides bristling with bare crags and dizzy precipices, others are clothed with dense forests, gloomy and grand, both forming a vivid contrast to the happy smiling valley which nestles at their mighty feet. It might well, indeed, have been the Garden of Eden, and the lofty mountains, angels guarding its portal.

It seems impossible to write about Kashmir without quoting Moore's well-known lines :

“ Who has not heard of the Vale of Cashmere,  
With its roses the brightest that earth ever gave,  
Its temples, and grottos, and fountains as clear  
As the love-lighted eyes that hang over their wave.”

The most prosaic would lapse into poetry in the endeavour to do justice to the beauties of this "Holy Land," alike of the Hindus and Mohammedans.

Kashmir Valley, which is about 5,200 feet above the level of the sea, is intersected by the river Jhelum and its numerous tributaries, and the mountains among which it lies bear, according to Sir William Hunter,



H.H. THE MAHARAJA'S PALACE AND BOAT, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR.  
(From a photo by Firth & Co.)

different names in different parts—"the Snowy Pansal on the east, the Fateh Pansal and Pansal of Banihal on the south, the Pír Panjál on the west, the Drawer Mountains on the north, and Haramúk and Sonamarg Mountains on the north-east." The highest ascertained peak is about 18,000 feet. On the summit of several surrounding hills are beautiful

grassy valleys, or mountain meadows, whose rich pasturage during the summer months attract hundreds of herdsmen with their flocks of sheep, goats, and cattle. About twenty-six passes lead into the valley, but only ten are of special importance, or available for ordinary travellers. The principal rivers are the Veshaw, Liddar, Sind, and Pohra next to the historical Jhelum, which was the Hydaspes of the Greeks. The Jhelum is spanned by thirteen bridges in its course through the valley, and they are very peculiarly constructed of deodar wood (Himalayan cedar), of which the accompanying illustration will convey a better idea than the most concise description. Sometimes this river overflows its banks and floods the whole country, causing heavy losses and consequent distress.

Kashmir is well supplied with lakes; the Dal or City Lake, which is situated on the north side of Srinagar, and connected with the Jhelum by a canal which joins it opposite the Maharaja's summer palace, is made in "Lalla Rookh" the scene of the love quarrel of the Emperor Jehangir and the beautiful Sultana Nourmahal, where

"The low whisp'ring in boats,  
As they shoot through the moonlight; the dipping of oars,  
And the wild airy warbling that everywhere floats  
Through the groves, round the islands, as if all the shores,  
Like those of Kathay, utter'd music, and gave  
An answer in song to the kiss of each wave."

There is a small but lovely lake, the Mánaswal, which is one and a half miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide. To the west of the valley is the Wular Lake, the largest of all, and very dangerous to navigate, like all mountain lakes, being frequently liable to sudden hurricanes, which lash its surface into mountain-like waves of foam. This lake is about thirty miles in circumference. Innumerable springs also rise in



the mountains, some of which are mineral, chiefly iron and sulphur, and some warm, like those of the Weean. Kashmir is subject to sudden shocks of earthquake, which in former days were very destructive, as in 1552, 1680, and in 1828, on which latter date it is said that 1,200 houses fell and over 1,000 people were killed.

The mountains on the southern side are covered with dense forests of Himalayan oak, pine, spruce, silver fir, deodar cedar, and rhododendrons and juniper, while on the northern side the mountains are bare and rugged, and the summits always covered with snow. The mineral wealth of the country is considerable; iron abounds, although not of good quality; copper and plumbago are also found, and gold-dust in small quantities in the beds of some of the rivers. Bears, brown and red, leopards, stags, ibex and musk-deer frequent the mountains, and wolves are also to be found in great numbers. It is a land of promise for sportsmen, almost every kind of game being easily obtainable; the heron is much sought after for its feathers, a plume of which worn in the turban is an emblem of the highest rank. There is hardly a flower that will not grow in this lovely spot. Roses, wild and cultivated, from which the costly Attar Gal is obtained, flourish in abundance, and the crocus also grows everywhere in rich profusion, while the saffron is of great commercial value. Vegetables and fruit of most delicious flavour abound everywhere; and the floating gardens on the city lake yield abundant crops of fine cucumbers and melons. The principal manufactures are the famous Kashmere shawls, made from the wool, or rather down, of the Kashmir goat, spun by women and girls, then dyed by experts, who are said to be able to produce sixty-four different permanent shades. They are then woven in strips and afterwards sewn together. Some shawls take from sixteen to twenty weeks to make, and are priced at £700. Beautiful

woollen fabrics and cloths, unequalled for softness and fineness, are made from the camel's hair. Great attention is now being paid to silkworm culture, and silk is made of good quality and colouring; also paper, beautiful papier-maché, unique in design and finish, and gold and silver work. Bees are kept by the poorer classes, and the honey is of delicious flavour.

The population is mostly Muhammedan, and of the Suni sect; the Hindus are also numerous, and are now the favoured class, the reigning family being Dogras, a sect of the Hindus divided into several families, chief of which are the *Pundits*, learned Brahmins regarded with great veneration as teachers and interpreters of the sacred writings; they have two colleges, one at Jamu and the other at Srinagar. The people are a fine race, tall, well-proportioned, with regular features, and fair complexion, and the beauty of their women, especially the wives of the *Pundits*, has become a tradition all over the world. A large army is kept up, the men being well paid, and drilled after British fashion; the officers are all native gentlemen, and use English words of command.

The history of Kashmir is as remarkable as the beauty of its scenery. Tradition leads as far back as the Creation, but apart from this the kingdom can boast of a history as ancient as any extant, and numerous relics and ruins bear unerring testimony to its former greatness and prosperity. Professor H. H. Wilson believes that the word Khasmir is derived from Kashuf-pur, the country of Kashuf, the reputed grandson of Brahma, the termination "pur" signifying town or city, and then in course of time the word came to be pronounced *Kashmur*, and afterwards Kashmir: others go further back to Cush, the son of Ham, and grandson of Noah. These suggestions as to the derivation of the name of this fair province, this modern garden of Eden, must be left to the ingenuity of the reader

to solve. Dr. J. Ince, in his interesting little "*Handbook of Kashmir*," mentions that some historians affirm that Kashmir was visited by *Adam* after the Fall. *Moses* is said to have died there, and the descendants of *Seth* are stated to have reigned over it for 1,110 years. The period of the *Deluge* is indicated by the legend regarding the dessication of the valley by the divine sage Kashuf or Kussyapa. *Solomon* is said to have visited it, and to have introduced the worship of *one* God, which long continued the prevailing faith, but it was succeeded by idolatry, which, with one or two intervals of Bhuddism, prevailed until about the beginning of the fourteenth century, and from this period a brief sketch of the principal events up to the time of the present Maharaja will be interesting.

Mohammedism became the prevailing faith of Kashmir during the reign of Shams-ud-din, the first Mohammedan King of Kashmir; he was followed by his two sons and grandson up to 1356. A famous king was Butshikan, who was a sort of Indian Cromwell, whose seal of destruction can be seen now upon the ruins and mutilations of many ancient interesting temples and shrines. In 1423 the great king Badshaw came to the throne and reigned for fifty-three years; he was a learned man and a very able ruler; he introduced weaving, glass-making, book-binding, and the beautiful papier-maché work for which Kashmir is now so famous. In 1587 the province was conquered and annexed by the Mughal power, under whose sway it remained for one hundred and sixty-six years, during which period it was the favourite summer retreat of the Mughal Emperors, notably Akbar Jehangir and his lovely consort Nourmahal, Shah Jehan, and Aurangzeb. At the fall of the Mughal Empire in 1739, the Governor of Kashmir ruled the province in his own name; from this period until 1819 it remained under the sway of fourteen

successive Governors until it was conquered by Ranjit Singh and attached to his possessions in the Punjab, and continued so for twenty-seven years, until on the 16th of March, 1846, it was assigned by a treaty to Golab Singh, the Maharaja of Jamu, who bound himself to acknowledge the supremacy of the British Government, and to assist the British troops when called upon. The Maharaja adhered to this agreement, and sent a contingent of troops and artillery to co-operate with the British forces against Delhi during the Mutiny of 1857. He died in the August of the same year, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Maharaja Rhanbir Singh, G.C.S.I., born in 1830, and who was of the Dogra Rajput caste. The military force of the state at this time was about 19,000 men and six-



ISCARDS: SOLDIERS OF THE MAHARAJA OF KASHMIR.  
(From a photo by Frith & Co.)

teen batteries of artillery, and the yearly tribute payable to the British Government consisted of one horse, twelve shawl goats, and three pairs of shawls. The late Maharaja was a most enlightened prince, gave great encouragement to education, and at the Delhi durbar held in the January of 1877, he was gazetted a general in the British army and created a counsellor of the Empress. He was entitled to a personal

salute of twenty-one guns, and received a sanad of adoption. He was a Rajput of the highest caste, and was much influenced by the advice of the numerous *Pundits* and Brahmins by whom he was always surrounded, and who profited by his liberality. His Highness had four sons. Mean Sahib Pertab Singh, born on the 23rd of May, 1850, Mean Ram Singh, Mean Umur Singh, and Mean Lachman Singh. The usual royal residence is at Jamu, but some months are always spent by the Maharaja at the beautiful summer palace at Srinagar. His Highness Maharaja Rhambir Singh died on the 12th of September, 1885, and on the 13th his body was burned on the banks of the River Savi in the presence of a large multitude. It was an imposing ceremony; the body was enveloped in about forty coverings of rich shawls and stuffs, interspersed with gold coins and valuable jewels, the offerings of the ladies of the family. The whole of the Maharaja's wardrobe, jewels, riding horses, seven elephants, and a number of cattle, besides much gold, were set aside for distribution among the Brahmins. The period of mourning extended over thirteen days. White garments were worn by all, and ornaments of every description were laid aside. All Government employés, including the soldiers, shaved their heads and faces, excepting the Sikhs, Mussulmans, Brahmins, and Rajput connections of the Maharaja. The Maharaja was succeeded by his eldest son, Maharaja Pertab Singh, who came into power at a critical time, when, owing to the ill-health of his father, the state had become disorganised. The British Government suggested the following measures of reform to him: "The introduction of a reasonably light assessment of land revenues, collections being made in cash; if on examination that seemed to be a suitable arrangement, the construction of good roads; the cessation of state monopolies; the revision of existing taxes and dues, especially transit dues, and the

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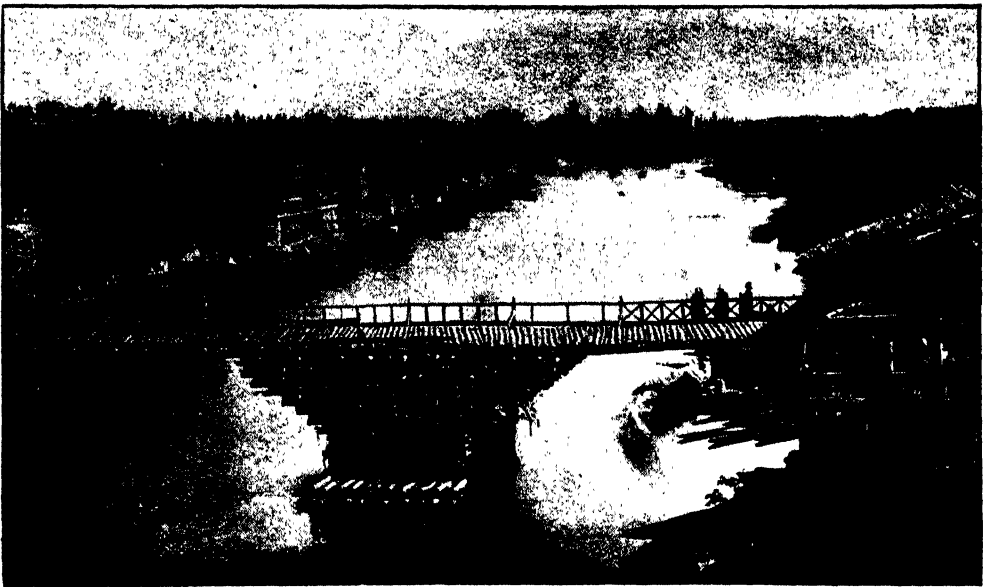
numerous taxes upon trades and professions; the abolition of the system of farming the revenue, wherever this system is in force; the appointment of respectable officials, if such exist, and their regular payment in coin, the establishment of a careful system of financial control, the removal of all restrictions upon emigrations; the reorganisation and regular payment of the army; and the improvement of the judicial administrations." All excellent measures, though a Herculean task even to the wisest statesman and the most ardent reformer, but impossible as regards the monarch of an Eastern kingdom, who, with the best intentions in the world, is permitted to know but little of what is really transpiring, the distress and misery of his subjects going no further than the ears of his self-interested and often avaricious ministers. The ruler is surrounded like a child with its toys, by pomp and luxury, while the applause and adulation of those who approach him drown the wailing of the sufferers. He is to a great extent the victim of circumstances, and of those customs which usage has made a second nature. He has been taught to regard the teachers of his religion with almost divine reverence, and their word is his law. How difficult must be their lives when, after being educated under English tutors, and realising the benefit of reform and progress, only to find all to be at war against earliest teachings, custom, caste, and religion.

In ancient times the province was divided for purposes of government into two portions, which were again sub-divided into thirty-six "pergannahs" or hundreds, but of late years it has been reorganised, being divided into a number of districts, and these again into parishes; over each district a deputy-commissioner ruled under the head governor, who took his orders direct from the ruler of the state. The laws are mild, and serious crimes almost unheard of. The present Maharaja is of medium

height, well proportioned, his complexion fair, and with very large and brilliant eyes, but is not possessed of the determination and firmness of his father. His Highness had not been long on the throne before an unpleasant feeling arose between him and the Government of India, and the Maharaja was accused of treason, but the matter was thoroughly sifted by the English Government, and the Maharaja entirely cleared of the charge, though it ended in the Maharaja's voluntary resignation of full power for five years. So the state is now administered by a council consisting of four members, of which the Maharaja is the president, and his youngest brother, Raja Amir Singh, is the vice-president, while his third brother is the commander-in-chief of the state army. The Maharaja retains his rank and dignity as chief of the state, and efforts are being made by the council to improve the state. A railway to Jamu, water-works, and important trunk roads are among the public works carried out lately. Four out of the five years for which the council was appointed have expired, and in a year or so it is more than probable that the Maharaja will again be vested with full administrative powers.

The Maharaja's palaces are called "mondi," and the one at Jamu, situated upon the right bank of the river Tavi, is built on a small but beautifully wooded hill opposite the Fort of "Baboo." The white walls of the palace and citadel present a striking appearance from the surrounding country. The palace has extensive pleasure grounds, and the town, with its many fine ruins, shows how great must have been its former importance and prosperity. The largest city in Kashmir is Srinagar, or "City of the Sun," the capital of Kashmir; it is a sort of Eastern Venice, and extends for about two miles along both banks of the river Jhelum. The houses, two or three stories high, are quaintly picturesque, with gables, the roofs being often covered with earth, and grass-grown. Here

and there may be seen the glittering metal roofs and pinnacles of temples and mosques. The population of the city is estimated at about 170,000 souls. The principal public buildings are the palace, fort, gun factory, and mint, also some ancient mosques and temples. In the suburbs are the mansions of the shawl merchants and bankers. The river divides the city into two portions, united by seven bridges, and it is also intersected by several canals. On the right bank of the river are fine



SRINAGAR FROM THE SECOND BRIDGE.

(From a photo by Frith & Co.)

orchards, in which are travellers' bungalows, built by the Maharaja for the convenience of visitors; they are partly furnished, and rent free. Behind the bungalows is a hill some 6,000 feet above the level of the sea, called *The Throne of Solomon*, upon the summit of which is a fine old temple erected by Jaloko, 220 B.C. On another isolated hill to the north of the city stands the fort, surrounded by a high stone wall, both built by the Emperor Akbar about 1590, at a cost of £1,000,000 sterling.



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From the top of this hill a fine view of the city and Dal Lake can be had. The Barah Darri is a beautiful pavilion erected for the use of the Maharaja or distinguished guests ; the doors and ceilings are of papier-maché, the walls painted, and each room lighted by huge chandeliers of cut glass. The Sher Garhi, or city fort and palace, is situated on the left bank of the river, and in the interior are the houses of the court officials, the government offices, and barracks ; on the wall and facing the river is the Dewar's house, and just below that the treasury. Then comes the Rhang Mahal, or Hall of Audience, which is a part of the Baradarri Palace, a modern structure overlooking the river. A wide flight of steps, terminating in a gateway guarded by a tall sentry, leads from the water up to the palace. The interior is only a repetition of other Eastern royal residences : much glare and glitter, large mirrors and huge chandeliers of coloured glass, but the walls and ceilings are unique, being covered with papier-maché painted in beautiful devices. Close to the palace is the royal temple, the roof of which is covered with thin plates of pure gold. The Sunt-i-Kul canal leads from here to the gate of the City Lake. A curious bridge, the Habba Kadal, was burnt down in 1870 ; it had a row of wooden shops along both sides like the old London Bridge. One of the most celebrated mosques in Kashmir is the Shah Hamadan Masjid. It is built of cedar, and is surmounted by a golden ball instead of a crescent, and carved wooden flowers droop round the projecting roof. The Great mosque was built by the Emperor Shah Jehan, the roof surrounded by wooden pillars 30 ft. high. There are so many buildings and temples of all kinds that it is impossible to do more than mention the most interesting. The City Lake, situated on the north-east side of the town, is a delightful spot, sheltered on the north and east by lofty mountains clothed with verdure, its surface

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nearly covered with floating gardens, and here and there clumps of tall rushes and lotus which afford shelter to the wild fowl which in the summer make their home on its banks. The village of Hazratbal on the western side of the lake is one of the most noted places in Kashmir, for there is exhibited a hair from the beard of Mahomet. Four festivals are held here yearly, the Feast of Roses being one of the most important. A few hundred yards from this village is the Nassub Bagh, or Garden of Bliss. The Shalimar Bagh, a fine old pleasure garden made by the Emperor Jehangir, is 590 yards long, and about 267 yards wide, and surrounded by a high wall. In the centre of the garden are several tanks, connected by a canal, lined with polished limestone and with beautiful fountains. In the uppermost terrace of the garden is a noble black marble pavilion, of which Dr. Ince gives the following description: "The pavilion is raised upon a platform a little more than three feet high and 65 feet square; its roof is flat, about 20 feet high, and supported on each side by a row of six elaborately carved black marble pillars, which are of polygonal shape and fluted; on two sides there is an open corridor 65 feet long and 18 feet wide, and in the centre an open passage about 26 feet long and 21 feet wide, on the right and left of which is a closed apartment about 21 feet long and 13 feet wide. This pavilion is surrounded by a fine reservoir 52 yards square and about three and a half feet deep; it is lined with stone and contains 144 large fountains. Upon each side of this principal terrace, and built against the wall, there is also a lodge. These formed the private apartments of the Imperial family. . . . The Shalimar is the favourite place for dinners, picnics, and balls, and when at night the fountains are playing, and the canal, its waterfalls, the pavilion, and the whole gardens are illuminated with coloured lamps, the effect is beautiful beyond description. It was the

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*Trianon* of the old Mogul Emperors." It will be better known from Moore's "*Light of the Harem*," where it is said

"The imperial Selim held a feast  
In his magnificent *Shálemár*,"

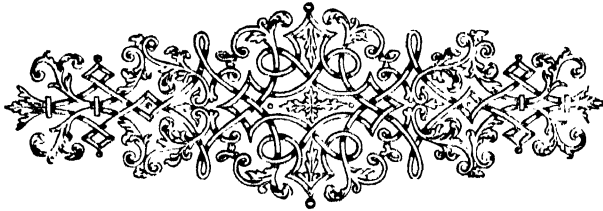
and as the place where the fair *Nourmahal*, disguised and masked as a minstrel, sang the lovely song, each verse of which ends

"And oh ! if there be an Elysium on earth,  
It is this, it is this."

Pages might be covered with the description of all the pretty villages and places of interest in this "*Fairy Land*," "where architecture," Fergusson says, "has attracted more attention in modern times than that of any other part of India, whose temples extend through six centuries, A.D. 600 to A.D. 1200, unlike in style to any other; the early style is almost identical with that of the Grecian Doric. The temple of *Martana*, five miles east of *Islamabad*, the ancient capital of the valley, is the architectural lion of *Kashmir*."

We will return to the city, and walk through the wonderful poplar avenue, called the "*Rotten Row*" of *Srinagar*; it is a mile and a quarter long, and fifty-six feet wide, and was planted by the Sikhs. At the bazaars will be seen specimens of the beautiful arts and industries of the country. Chased silver and ruddy gold work, gemmed and enamelled jewellery of the finest kind, which, Sir George Birdwood writes in his "*Industrial Arts*," would recall the articles mentioned in *Isaiah* iii. 17-29; the papier-maché is the finest in India; the *Cashmere* shawls of world-wide fame; stuffs, brocaded and plain, of exquisite texture, made of camel's hair; rich carpets, and unglazed earthenware. Glowing fruit that rival the *Golden Apples* of *Hesperides* can be bought

for a mere trifle. Nothing is now required to make this lovely spot the most enviable state on earth but that its own ruler should again hold the reins of administration with firm but just hands, and pursue the reforming measures inaugurated by the Council. It is certain that the Maharaja has realised the benefit that has accrued to his state and subjects during the last four years, and that when he resumes the administrative power, Kashmir will welcome him back to his own with loud acclamation. Kashmir has aroused the cupidity of foreign powers for many long years, but its rocky bulwarks form an impenetrable barrier which, if joined to the loyalty of its ruler, will keep the "door of India" closed for ever to foreign invaders, whose real object is not protection, but plunder.





HIS HIGHNESS RAJINDAR SINGH. MAHARAJA OF PATIALA.

## PATIALA.

HIS HIGHNESS RAJINDAR SINGH, MAHARAJA OF PATIALA.



PATIALA, one of the group known as the Cis-Satlej states, under the political superintendence of the Punjab Government, ranks second among the thirty-five native states of the Punjab, and is considered the largest and most important of the Sikh states. It has an area of 5,419 square miles, a population of 1,600,000, and an estimated revenue (in 1890) of Rx.516,140. The Sikhs are a religious sect, founded early in the fifteenth century by Bába Nának, who was a follower of the great Indian reformer, Kábir. They are Monotheists, and believe in pure spiritual devotion, without emblems of any kind; accordingly their creed inculcates the highest moral purity. Their leaders were called *Gurus*, and their sacred books *Granth*. Their headquarters were at Amritsar, the finest and most commercially prosperous city in the whole of the Punjab. Its name, which signifies "The pool of immortality," is derived from the sacred tank, in the midst of which stands the famous Golden Temple, built by Ranjit Singh. The Sikhs rapidly became a strong and wealthy sect, and their increasing power aroused the jealousy of the Mughal Government, which culminated in their imprisoning and killing Arjun, who was the second *Guru*. This tyranny aroused the anger of the race; and from a peaceful religious sect they were converted into desperate fanatics, determined to avenge themselves upon their oppressors, to secure which end they formed

themselves into armed bands, and took refuge in the northern mountains until the year 1675, when, under the leadership of Guru Govind, the chief, they were formed into a religious and military commonwealth, which, although admirably disciplined, was not strong enough to overcome their enemies. They were repulsed with much slaughter, and their leader was murdered; their defeat and misfortunes only served to add fuel to the flame of their anger. Under their new leader, Bānda, they overran the whole of the Punjab, massacred entire towns, sparing not even women and children. They were several times driven back to the mountains, but again and again renewed their attempts, each time becoming more cruel and revengeful. In 1762 they were completely routed by Shah Durani, the Afghan invader, who destroyed the town of Amritsar and their sacred temple. Under the able leadership of the famous Ranjit Singh they once more overran the country, and succeeded in conquering nearly the whole of the Punjab, including Kashmir. Not satisfied with this, they made inroads into British territory, the result being the first Sikh war in 1845. The Sikhs are a fine race, and very brave, but illiterate. The Royal Family of Patiala are of the Sidhu-jat clan, founded by Jesal, a Bhatti Rājput, who founded the state and city of Jesalmir, but was driven from his kingdom in 1180. The first chief of Patiala was Ala Singh, a very distinguished Sikh, who, by his bravery and success, attracted many followers, who were eagerly welcomed if they could ride and fight. In 1761 Ala Singh was taken prisoner by the Muhammedan ruler of Afghanistan, Ahmed Shah, but was released on the payment of a ransom; and his generous conqueror gave him a dress of honour and the title of Raja. He was the most distinguished among the Sikh chiefs; he had only one wife, who bore him three sons—Sardul Singh, Bumian Singh, and Lal Singh. The first-mentioned died in 1753

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from the effects of drink ; his youngest brother died also from the same vice. Raja Ala Singh was succeeded by his grandson, the second son of Sardul Singh. The young chief added to his territories ; and the title of Raja, which had been bestowed by Ahmed Shah upon his grandfather, was continued to him ; the Afghan monarch further distinguished him by giving him a flag and a drum, the insignia of independent power. He succeeded in making Patiala the most powerful state between the Jumna and Satlej. He was a brave and powerful ruler, but fell a victim to the vices of his race, dying of dropsy, brought on by drinking, at the early age of thirty-five, and was succeeded by his son Raja Sahib Singh, who at the time of his father's death was only six years of age. No sooner had he taken his seat on the gadi than a rebellion broke out, which was followed by others ; then, as misfortunes never come singly, the great famine of 1783 destroyed thousands of people ; robbers and dacoits flourished, and the whole state was in a state of anarchy ; and but for the prompt measures adopted by the Prime Minister, Nanun Mal, a man of great experience and wisdom, who was warmly supported by the young chief's grandmother, Rani Hukman, all the territories gained by Raja Amer Singh would have fallen into the hands of neighbouring chiefs. The women of the house of Patiala have always been renowned for their courage and energy, and the possession of virtues usually attributed to men alone. A remarkable instance of this is seen in the history of Rani Rajindar of Phagwári, a first cousin of Raja Amer Singh, and who had helped him in former difficulties. When, after the death of Rani Hukman, the Dewan's enemies imprisoned him, this brave woman marched with her force to Patiala, released and reinstated the Minister, and, by her prompt action, restored order. When the Mahratta army marched against Patiala the Rani prepared to defend the city, and ulti-



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mately marched with the Mahrattas to Martha to arrange payment of the fine, which the besiegers demanded, and for the security of which they had taken possession of the fort of Sefabad. During the Rani's absence, the young Raja Sahib Singh, instigated by his courtiers, who one and all hated and feared Nanun Mal, confiscated the Minister's property, imprisoned one of his sons, and besieged the fort of Ghaner, which was defended by Nanun Mal's nephews; so the faithful Dewan had to take up his residence in a little village on the frontier of the state he had struggled so hard to save. His relations were expelled from office, and some imprisoned. When Rani Rajindar returned from Martha, her kinsman, who feared her power, refused to see her. His ingratitude she took so much to heart that she died after a short illness in 1791. Nanun Mal only survived her one year. Raja Sahib Singh was simply a tool in the hands of his favourites whom he had raised to power, but now distrusted; so he invited his sister, Sahib Kour, who had married Sirdar Jaimal Singh Kanheya, and was as clever and courageous as her cousin, the Rani Rajindar, to pay him a visit, and he made her his Prime Minister. Shortly after her arrival at Patiala her husband was arrested by his cousin, Fatah Singh, whereupon she immediately borrowed some troops from her brother, and marched at their head to the rescue. She succeeded in her object, and returned in triumph to Patiala. And this was not the only occasion on which she distinguished herself as a brave soldier and a skilful general. In 1794, when Patiala was invaded by Mahrattas, instead of doing homage, as other states had done, she determined to oppose the enemy, and marched to meet them at the head of 7,000 men. But her soldiers were inexperienced, and, losing courage, would have retreated but for her bravery. Stepping out of her chariot, and drawing her sword, she said she meant to "conquer or

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die." Encouraged by this noble example, the soldiers closed around her, and fought bravely, although without much success until night, when they attacked the Mahratta camp, and completely routed them. Her popularity and influence over her brother aroused the jealousy of his wife, the Rani Aus Kour, and through her misrepresentations the weak-minded Sahib Singh treated his sister with great unkindness, and ordered her to leave Patiala. This Rani Sahib Kour declined to do. So she was imprisoned in the fort of Bhawanigarh, but escaped to a fort she had built near Sunour, where she lived very quietly until her death, in 1799. Raja Amar Singh was an indolent ruler, without any force of character; indeed, his dissipated habits unfitted him for the government of his state, which was left to his ambitious, but clever wife, Rani Aus Kour. Owing to quarrels with neighbouring states and daily discord between the Raja and his wife, Patiala was in a continuous state of uproar, and it was unsafe for strangers to enter the territory. In these circumstances Ranjit Singh was invited to assist in arranging a settlement between the Royal pair, and six districts, with a revenue of Rs.50,000, was settled upon Rani Aus Kour for the maintenance of herself and her son, Kour Karm Singh. In 1808 the Raja of Patiala asked for British protection for his state against Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who had conquered the greater part of the Punjab, and was anxious to make himself the head of the Sikh nation. In the April of 1809 Ranjit Singh signed a treaty with the British Government, by which he agreed to abandon all claims to the Cis-Satlaj territory. Every day, owing to the Raja's increasing infirmity of mind, affairs in Patiala got worse, till at last his wife took the management of the state, and with the greatest wisdom and firmness restored order, where before only chaos reigned. In a fit of mad passion the Raja ordered her to be imprisoned, but

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when released she, with fresh ardour, returned to her difficult task. Disagreements and quarrels were continuous between them, and owing to the violence of the Raja, the Rani's life was in danger, and the British Government was compelled to interfere. The Rani was then made Regent and given full power.

The Raja did not live long to enjoy the peace and quietness of the new *régime*, for he died in 1843, from the effects of intemperance, and was succeeded by his son, Karam Singh, who only lived until 1845, and he, like his father, was jealous of the power of his mother, and she, wearied and embittered by continuous disagreement, gave up her position, and retired to Sunour. Maharaja Karam Singh's short reign was disturbed by various quarrels and difficulties with the neighbouring chiefs, and also by his resistance to the action of the British Government in annexing certain districts; but in the year 1845 he showed his loyalty by offering to provide the British with a contingent for active service, as well as all necessary supplies. He died in the December of that year, and was succeeded by his son, Narindra Singh, then in his twenty-third year, whom Sir Lepel Griffin, in his "Rajas of the Punjab," describes as the "most enlightened ruler that Patiala ever saw." He confirmed his father's policy with regard to the British Government, by giving every aid in his power, and at the close of the war was rewarded by a *sanad*, or grant of land and privileges, "and an assurance of protection and guarantee of his rights in his former possessions." The next important event was the annexation of the Punjab in 1848 by the British, when all the chiefs except nine ceased to hold Sovereign power; these were Patiala, Jhind, Faridkot, Maler Kotla, Chichrowli, Raikot, Buria, Mamdot, and Nabha;

their number has now been reduced to six. Maharaja Narindar Singh was very anxious to visit England, and made all arrangements for his departure, but when the Mutiny broke out, he could not leave his state. During the troublous two years (1857-8, 1858-9) which followed, his conduct was such as to call forth the warmest praises of the British Government. His high position as the acknowledged head of the Sikh chiefs influenced others of less importance to follow the example he set, by placing the whole of his resources at the command of the English. In the report of the Commissioner of the Cis-Satlej States, the following words occur: "The Maharaja was an orthodox Hindoo, whose position and career alike commanded respect. His support at such a crisis was worth a brigade of English troops to us, and served more to tranquillise the people than a hundred official disclaimers would have done." At the beginning of the outbreak he had been offered a handsome reward by the King of Delhi if he would come over to his side, but he preferred to remain loyal to the English. His services were well rewarded by grants of new territory, and increase of titles; the Rajas of Nabha and Jhind also received various concessions. In 1861 Maharaja Narindra Singh was invested with the most exalted Order of the Star of India, and at the same time he was appointed a member of the Governor-General's Council for making laws and regulations. He did not live long to enjoy his new honours, for he fell a victim to fever, and died in the November of 1862, at the age of 39, after a reign of seventeen years. His successor was his only son, Mohindar Singh, then ten years of age, so the administration was carried on by a Council of Regency. During his minority the young Maharaja was care-

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fully educated ; he learnt English and Persian, and was an intelligent youth of great promise. In 1870 he went to Lahore to meet his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh ; and in the same year was nominated a knight of the most exalted Order of the Star of India. He married three wives. The principal public work carried out during his reign was the construction of a canal from the Rupar on the Satlej for the irrigation of the Patiala and Ambala districts. The Maharaja died in 1873, leaving two sons, the elder of whom, his Highness Rajindar Singh, succeeded him, and is the present Maharaja ; he is now about twenty years of age. Three years ago he was installed with full powers as chief, and it is yet too soon to speak of his capabilities as a ruler ; but it is expected he will fulfil the hopes entertained of him. His Highness was very delicate as a boy, but of late years has become much stronger. He is a great friend of the young Maharaja of Kapurthalla—both princes having been educated together. He is highly cultured and enlightened, and his sweetness of disposition has endeared him to everyone to whom he is known. His Highness has a magnificent regalia, one diamond alone having cost £40,000.

On the death of Maharaja Mohindar Singh, a Council of Regency was appointed in accordance with the conditions approved by the British Government in 1858 for the Sikh states.

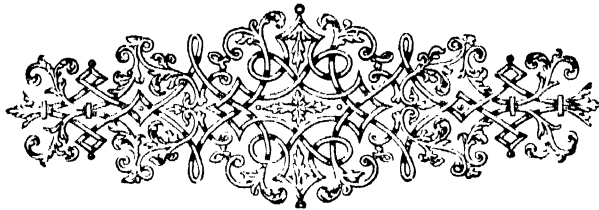
The Council worked fairly well, chiefly owing to the skill and energy of its President, Sir Dewa Singh, ably seconded by the Minister and Foreign Minister, two Mahommedan gentlemen of high reputation. During the minority of the Maharaja, the revenue has largely increased. There are lead and copper mines, and slate and marble quarries within the confines of the state. And the Patiala

and Bhatindá Railway, which was opened in 1889, is increasing its prosperity.

When the Maharaja attained his majority, he gave Rs.50,000 to the Punjab University for the foundations of scholarships. The death of Sir Dewa Singh at this time was a great loss to the young prince, as well as to the state.

Patiala city was founded in 1752 by Sardar Ala Singh, and is about an hour's journey from Raypur Junction. The palace is a fine building, luxuriously furnished, and surrounded by beautiful gardens. The Audience Hall has a hundred crystal chandeliers, and in the centre stands a glass candelabrum in imitation of a fountain; the decoration of this gorgeous room alone is said to have cost £100,000. The Maharaja furnishes a contingent of 100 horse for general duty. His military force consists of 3,000 cavalry, 600 infantry, 31 field and 78 other guns, and 238 artillerymen, and he is intitled to a salute of seventeen guns. His Highness, who is married, warmly supports all progressive movements, and has founded scholarships in connection with Lady Dufferin's medical scheme for the women of India. He has also built and endowed a female hospital at Patiala, which is well managed by a highly-trained native doctor, and supplied with all the privacy and comforts necessary for female patients, at a sum of Rs.50,000. There is not an appeal, either for funds or for personal co-operation, brought before him which has for its object the good of his state or people that is not responded to with the greatest alacrity and pleasure. His Highness has a most generous heart, ample means for carrying out his noble impulses, and combined with shrewd common-sense, which enables him to select proper channels and objects upon which to bestow his bounty. He is also thoroughly loyal.

On the 12th April last (1893) H.H. the Maharaja of Patiala was married to an English lady, Miss Florrie Bryan, who previous to the ceremony had embraced the Sikh faith, and the marriage was solemnised according to Sikh rites in the presence of all the leading Europeans in the state of Patiala, the Sikh officers and Court officials.









HIS HIGHNESS JAGATJIT SINGH, MAHARAJA OF KAPURTHALLA.

## KAPURTHALLA.

HIS HIGHNESS JAGATJIT SINGH, MAHARAJA OF KAPURTHALLA.



THE small native state of Kapurthalla lies north of Patiala, in the province of the Punjab, or "Five Rivers," a region which possesses, perhaps, greater historical interest than any other part of India. Sheltered and protected by the snow-capped peaks of the Himalaya, whose mighty arms stretch out in an unbroken chain of over 200 miles in extent, a dynasty was founded there fifteen centuries before Christ; and ancient history becomes modern when placed side by side with the traditions of the old Punjab chiefs, who, writes Sir Lepel Griffin, "were mostly of Rajput descent, and whose pedigrees stretch back in unbroken succession for several thousand years." These children of the Sun have had their deeds handed down from generation to generation, and their genealogies carefully preserved by their *mirasis*, or bards, the historians of those days. In their peaceful valleys chief after chief lived and died, knowing nothing about the hordes of invaders sweeping over the country around them. The five rivers—Sutlej, Beas, Chenab, Ravi, and Jhelum—from which the province derives its name, rise in the Himalaya, and fertilise the plain through which they fall before losing themselves in the Indus. Ten divisions in the Punjab—comprising a territory as large as Italy—are under British administration, and cover an area of 104,975

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square miles, with a population—exclusive of Europeans and Eurasians—of 17,611,498. The capital is Lahore; but chief in importance and population is Delhi, the old metropolis of the Patan and Mughal emperors, the largest and one of the oldest cities in India. Founded about fifteen centuries B.C., it was anciently called Indraprastha, where was laid the scene of the *Māhābhārata*, the great epic of the East. It once boasted of a population of 2,000,000 souls; and the traditions of its former glory and magnificence, as well as the vast track covered with the ruins of palaces, baths, gardens, and temples, prove it to have been amongst the finest cities in the world. The present town, built on two rocks on the banks of the river Jumna, is surrounded by high walls of red sandstone 30 feet high and 4 feet thick, with a moat 20 feet broad; the wall is five-and-a-half-miles round, and has ten gates, all built of freestone and defended by bulwarks. The palace of the Great Mogul, which has now been turned into a fort, was built by the Emperor Shah Jahan, who commenced it in 1631 and finished it in ten years. The following description of it is given by one writer: “The palace is situated on the bank of an offshoot from the Jumna, and is about one-and-a-half miles in circuit, being enclosed by an embattled wall of reddish sandstone, nearly sixty feet high, with round towers at intervals; the whole surrounded by a broad moat, which is separated from the streets of the city by a wide road, or esplanade. There are two principal entrances—the Delhi and Lahore gates; both the most splendid buildings of the kind, particularly the former, which is probably not surpassed by any similar structure in the world. The main gateway is flanked by two massive angular towers, embattled to

correspond with the top of the adjacent wall, and surmounted by two elegant octagon pavilions, with marble domes ; the central portion of the building is considerably raised above the towers, in the form of an elaborately carved screen, supported on a double row of slender columns, with minarets at the ends ; and over all



THE DURBAR HALL, KAPURTHALLA.

seven small marble domes with gilt spires." The interior of the palace is equal to the exterior, the audience hall being of sandstone and marble, the throne and canopy of white marble, decorated with a mosaic of precious stones representing birds and flowers, while

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another audience hall is of pure white marble, the ceiling richly coloured and gilt (it was at one time covered with silver rupees). Here stood the wonderful peacock throne, the tails of that bird being a mass of precious stones, and so numerous and exquisite that they were said to have cost four-and-a-half millions of money. Over two of the arches is the following inscription in Persian: "If earth contains a paradise, it is here." Another masterpiece, erected by that imperial architect, Shah Jehan, is the Jamma Mosque, considered by the Muhammadans to be the wonder of the world; and the pride is justifiable, for it took several thousand men six years to build this beautiful temple. Another mosque, built in 1386, is in the Pathan style of architecture; other famous buildings are the Observatory, built by the Raja of Jeypore in 1730; the Pearl Mosque, built by Aurangzeb in 1635; the tomb of Humayun; and the Tower of Kutab Minar, 238 ft. high. What pen could ever depict the gorgeous pageants that have passed along the streets of this old city, the power and wealth of its great emperors, who have left behind them these wonderful monumental buildings, the magnificence of which is unsurpassable even in these days of art-training and culture. Our finest workmanship is but the unskilled labour of an apprentice when compared with the exquisite masterpieces of this city of the past, the barbaric splendour and gigantic proportions of which are not more wonderful, than the delicacy and minuteness of tracery, carving, and inlaid work, which seem almost beyond the power of human hands to have accomplished. The progress and civilisation of the present seem like the dark ages compared with the possibilities of the grand past, and the ruins that remain as their only history, even in their decay mock at our puny efforts of to-day. Art was

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indeed divine in those times, and not, as at present, the eccentricity of individuals. A dark page in the history of this fair city is the remembrance of the horrors of the Mutiny, the massacres and fearful atrocities committed by the rebel fanatics. Delhi is the great emporium for eastern treasure, Cashmere shawls, wonderful gold and silver embroideries, carved and painted ivory, pottery, enamels, gold and silver lace, engraved gems, and leather-work. Nowhere will a greater variety or finer specimens of Indian art be found than here.

The authentic history of the Punjab begins when Alexander of Macedon invaded India and overran the whole province. The succeeding rulers were Muhammadan, and during the second dynasty of that faith the seat of government was, in 1160, removed from Lahore to Delhi. In 1526 the Mughal dynasty was founded, and the Imperial Family made Lahore, Delhi, and Agra their headquarters. Their sovereignty was disputed by the Sikhs, whose rise and progress have been detailed in the Patiala history, and now their power was curbed by the British. The native states of the Punjab number thirty-five, and include Kapurthalla, which is situated between Jalandhar and the river Beas, and its capital is said to have been founded by Rana Kapur, a Rajput immigrant from Jesalmir. The state has an area of only 800 square miles and a population of 250,000. So that Kapurthalla cannot take rank among the largest and most important states in the Punjab; but the enlightened policy of the present young ruler, and the bravery, loyalty, and just administration of his predecessors, has brought it into notice as a model state and one of the best governed in India. The Kapurthalla family are said to have descended from Sadao Singh, the founder of the village of Ahlu, from which the ruling family take the name Ahluwalia. The first chief of the family was Jassa Singh, who

distinguished himself as a warrior in 1747, and gained a great reputation for ability and bravery, and in 1749 was the chief leader among the Sikhs north of the Satlej. The first Sikh coin was struck by him in 1761, which bore the inscription, "Coin struck in the world by the grace of the immortal." He was the organiser of the Sikh military system, and the successor of their first Sirdar, Kapur Singh. Jassa Singh was successful in gaining possession of twenty-four villages in the Umballa district, but his own share of them—eight—was seized by the Raja of Patiala. In 1771 Jassa Singh marched against Kapurthalla, which was held by Rai Ibrahim, who had agreed to pay him annual tribute, and whose payments were greatly in arrear. In 1780 he took possession of the town, and it was his headquarters until his death, which occurred at Amritsar, in 1783. A most successful general and greatly respected by the Sikhs, he was enlightened and liberal minded, and all his followers were allowed to retain their own religious beliefs; he also was very generous and contributed handsomely towards the re-building of the Golden Temple at Amritsar, besides erecting many fine buildings, reservoirs, etc., in the city. Sir Lepel Griffin, in his "*Rajas of the Punjab*," describes the simple life of the Sikh Sirdars of those days: "At day-break he would rise, perform his ablutions, and dress, repeating the morning prayer or 'Sukhmani.' He then took his morning meal, which consisted in Jassa Singh's case of two pounds of flour and half a pound of sugar-candy, and it is not surprising to hear that he grew very fat. He then set about the business of the day, and at 3 p.m. held a *darbar*, or assembly, for all who chose to attend, where all matters of general interest were discussed. After the evening meal, musicians played and sung hymns called 'Sabdh Rahras,' and an hour after sunset all retired to rest having repeated the 'Ardas,' or evening prayer."



HIS HIGHNESS JAGATJIT SINGH, RAJA OF KAPURTHALLA.



Sirdar Jassa Singh had no son, and was succeeded by his cousin, Bagh Singh, then thirty-six years of age; he did not particularly distinguish himself, although he was continually fighting, and he died at Kapurthalla in 1801. He was followed by his son, Fatah Singh, who made a treaty with Maharaja Ranjit Singh, and agreed to assist him in his wars and expeditions, and it was owing to this friendship and help that Maharaja Ranjit Singh gained the power and reputation which he did; he was unscrupulous, and Fatah Singh feared he would be deprived of his possessions, as had been the case with the other chiefs. He therefore attempted to gain the protection of the British Governor, who, however, declined to interfere between the two chiefs; so ultimately, Fatah Singh lived in retirement at Kapurthalla until his death, which took place in October, 1837. He was a noble man and a brave warrior, but wanting in the energy and vigour which distinguished his brother chief, Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Sirdar Fatah Singh was succeeded by his son Nihal Singh, who for some time lived in a constant state of feud with his younger brother Amar Singh; this latter indeed attempted to become chief, and to oust Nihal Singh from his possessions, but before matters came to a climax Amar Singh was accidentally drowned.

During the Sikh war, Nihal Singh was under an obligation, by a treaty entered into by every chief in the protected states, to show his loyalty to the British Government by furnishing supplies to British troops passing through his territories, but was in too great fear of his own countrymen. His vacillation and weakness brought upon him a sharp rebuke from the Governor of India, and his *cis-Satlej* estates were confiscated. During the second Sikh war, he rendered every possible aid to the British Government—collected supplies and offered to send troops ;

in return for which services he was given the title of Raja. He lived a very quiet life until his death, managed his estates well, and established law courts on the English system ; he died in 1852, and Randhir Singh,



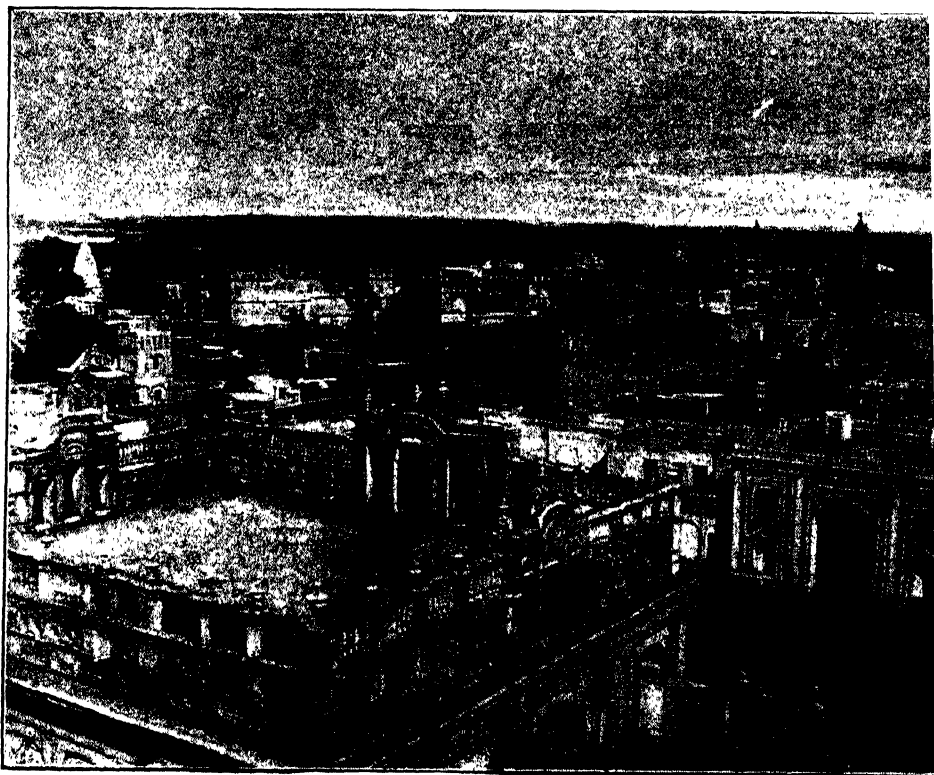
THE MAHARAJA'S STATE ELEPHANT.

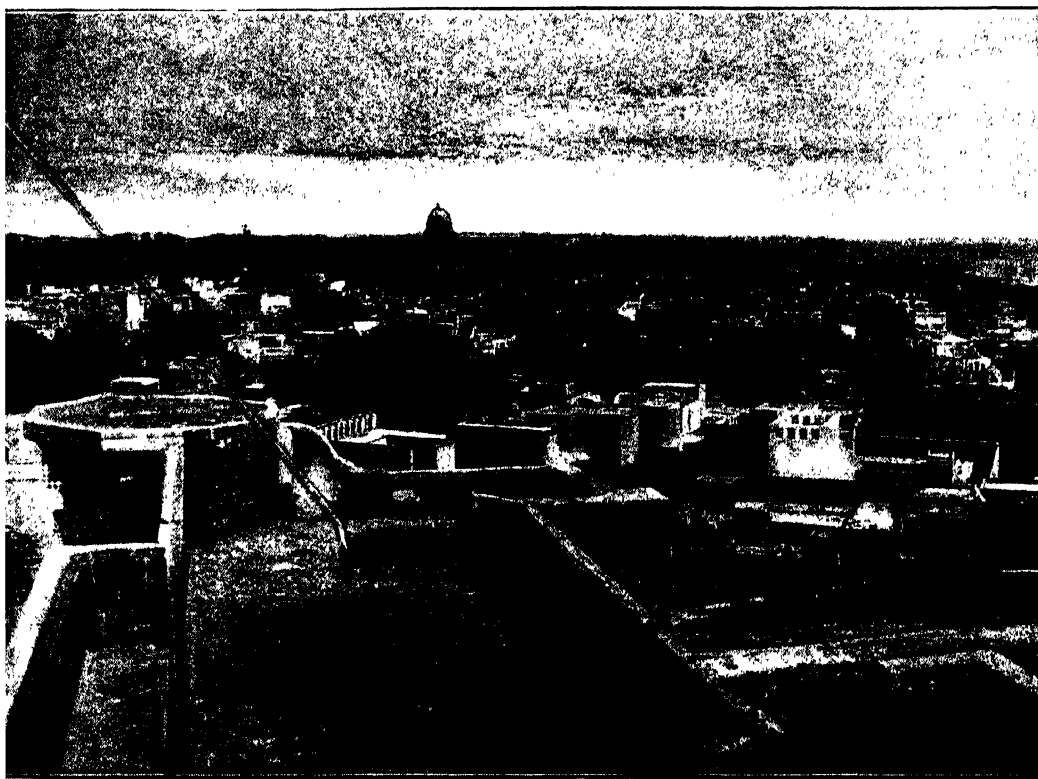
his eldest son, then in his twenty-second year, became the next ruler. For several years he and his younger brother quarrelled over their

father's will, and for sixteen years the matter remained undecided. At the time of the Mutiny the Raja behaved most nobly ; he paid an annual tribute in lieu of military service ; but this made no difference to the brave chief, who at the first outbreak marched at the head of his soldiers into Jalandhar, remaining there through the whole of the hot season ; his troops guarded the civil station, the gaol, and the treasury. The Raja's bravery and prompt services were duly estimated by the Government of India ; his tribute was reduced, valuable presents were given to him and his brother, besides honorary titles, and a salute of eleven guns was assigned to him. In 1858 the brothers led a contingent to Oudh, and for ten months were indefatigable in their work of subduing the mutineers and restoring order and peace. They always led their troops in person, and by their bravery and energy inspired their soldiers with their zeal and loyalty, and during the whole of this troublous time the conduct of the soldiers was exemplary. In return for his brilliant services the Government gave the Raja valuable estates in Oudh, and also restored to him land which had been forfeited by his predecessors. He also received the title of " Raja of Rajas." In 1864 he was invested with the insignia of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

Raja Randhir Singh's dearest wish had been to visit England, and on March 15th, 1870, he started from Bombay for that purpose, greatly against the wishes of his family and friends, as he was suffering from an affection of the liver. The sea voyage aggravated his complaint, and before reaching Aden he had become so ill that his life was despaired of, and he was removed on board the mail steamer returning to Bombay, but died before he reached land. His death, which caused the greatest grief to his subjects, had probably been accelerated by the family troubles and disputes referred to before







PURTHALLA.

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concerning the division of the Kapurthalla estates between himself and his younger brothers. The Raja had greatly beautified the town of Kapurthalla, erected several fine buildings, widened the streets and planted them with trees, laid out gardens, built several beautiful houses and established schools on the English plan. His body was cremated at the sacred city of Nasik, and a fortnight later the ashes were conveyed to Hardwar. Raja Randhir Singh was succeeded by his eldest son, Prince Kharrak Singh, whose installation took place on the 12th of May, 1870. An address of congratulation was presented from the subjects of the Kapurthalla State, and large contributions offered towards a memorial in honour of the late Raja, which was wisely devoted to building the Randhir College.

Raja Kharrak Singh, in addition to various other gifts towards works of public benefit, gave 25,000 rupees to found a national science prize, and was in every way treading in the footsteps of his illustrious father, when death ended his career at the early age of 28. His brother, Prince Harnam Singh, is a refined and cultivated gentleman; both he and his wife are Christians, and have twice visited England, where their three boys, Rughbeer Singh, aged 15, Maharaj Singh 13, and Shamshere Singh, are being educated. One is at Harrow and the two others at the Charterhouse. His Highness Jagatjit Singh, son of the late Raja Kharrak Singh, is the present ruler.

The young Maharaja is now in his 20th year, and was invested with full powers in 1890. During his long minority, the Kapurthalla State was managed by nine British superintendents in succession, the first being Sir Lepel Griffin, K.C.S.I., who was greatly honoured and liked for his unswerving straightforwardness, and H.H. the Maharaja Jagatjit Singh still regards him as a dear friend.



Sir Lepel was succeeded by Mr. Charles Riviere, who filled the post for nine years; the last superintendent was Major Massey.

H.H. Jagajit Singh is an intellectual, well-educated, and very charming man. He speaks English and French fluently. His income—including his estates in Oudh—amounts to between nineteen and twenty lakhs of rupees. In 1866 he was married to a high-caste Rajput lady, the daughter of a noble family in the Kangra district. All the public buildings are lighted with electricity, as are also the palaces, of which there are two, both furnished in English style. In the new palace, the drawing-room is beautifully arranged. Photographs and paintings are numerous, and the various pretty ornaments scattered about would make one imagine one had stepped into a London drawing-room. A billiard-room, divided by handsome curtains, opens out of it. The Raja has exquisite taste, as all his surroundings testify. He is a splendid tennis player and tricyclist and has a water velocipede, is very fond of out-door amusements, loves horses and dogs, of which latter he has a great number, mostly if not entirely, imported from England.

The Maharaja is equally indefatigable in intellectual pursuits, heartily promotes every progressive movement, is most genial and kindly of manner, a courteous host and pleasant companion. His state is thoroughly governed, and education is making rapid strides, and the Maharaja is beloved by his subjects, and universally respected and esteemed by Europeans; and his loyalty to the British Government is as fervent as was that of any of his illustrious predecessors. His Highness, like his grandfather, was anxious to visit England, and to be present at the opening of the Imperial Institute, so as to personally testify his loyalty to England and India's Empress, and was one of the three Indian Princes who witnessed that memorable ceremony.

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# RAJPUTANA.

## UDAIPUR (OR MEWAR).

HIS HIGHNESS DHIRAJ SIR FATEH SINGH BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., MAHARANA OF  
UDAIPUR.



THE history of Northern India is full of stirring incidents and rich in legendary lore ; but the bards—the historians of the past—have so embellished it with flowery metaphors and miraculous deeds that it is difficult to separate truth from fiction. Taking, however, only the merest outlines from the annals of Rajputana, they present a picture unequalled by any other history in the world. It is impossible not to look with admiration amounting to enthusiasm upon a people who can trace their descent in an unbroken line to about 2,500 years B.C., the splendour of whose courts and the depth of whose learning would have been remarkable even in this, the 19th century ; whose kings were often mighty warriors, legislators, and high priests, a race who struggled for centuries to maintain their independence, and defended to the death their ancient religion and liberty, and who, in spite of every temptation, have kept their noble name and lineage untarnished. Rajputana includes twenty native states, each having its separate ruler, as well as the British district of Ajmere-Marwára. Udaipur, or Mewar, stands foremost among the Rajputana states. It is under the political superin-

tendence of the Mewar Agency, and from north to south measures 148 miles, with an average breadth from east to west of 163 miles. The total area of the state is 12,670 square miles, with a population of 1,494,220 souls, and an estimated revenue of £510,000. It has 5,722 towns and villages. Udaipur is bounded on the north by Ajmere, on the east by the Bundi, Gwalior, Tonk, and Partabgarh state; on the south by Banswára, Dungarpur, and the Mahi Kántha; and on the north-west by Sirohi, Godwar and the province of Ajmere-Marwara. The northern and eastern portions consist of an elevated plateau, which slopes to the north-east, while the southern and western sides are rocky and hilly, and covered with a dense jungle. The Aravalli Mountains—whose name signifies the “hill of strength,” or the “refuge of strength”—run through the south-western and southern portions of the state, and separate Udaipur from Jodhpur. The portion of the range north of the Kumalmer is peopled by three aboriginal tribes, the war-like Bhils, who are under the control of their own chiefs, and the Mhairs and Minas. The country is rich in mineral wealth, but several of what were formerly productive mines are hardly worked at all. In the eastern portion iron ore is found, and there are tin and zinc mines. Close to Udaipur City, copper, lead and silver are to be found in some districts, and even gold in small quantities. It can boast of no large river besides the Banas, but there are plenty of minor streams and innumerable lakes and tanks; the Joisamand, considered the largest sheet of water in the world, being nine miles long by five broad, and covering an area of twenty-one square miles. This is situated twenty miles south-east of the capital. Another fine lake is Rajnagar, which is three miles long

and one-and-a-half wide. It cost £960,000, and took seven years to build. Almost every town and village has its artificial lake or tank, and in the year 1882 £23,862 were spent on irrigation works only. The principal products are cotton, oil-seed, Indian corn, barley, wheat, sugar-cane, opium and tobacco. Sheep and goats are very plentiful; horses scarce.

The Udaipur Royal Family is the highest in rank and dignity among all the Rajput chiefs of India, being descended from the elder branch of the *Surja Vansa*, or Children of the Sun, and the ruler is a lineal descendant of a triple royal line, namely, Rama—of whom he is the direct representative—the Persian Monarchs and the Roman Emperors. He is the first of the thirty-six royal tribes, and is termed “The Sun of the Hindus.” The founder of the Udaipur family was Kanak Seu, who emigrated in A.D. 145 from the most northern province of India to the peninsula of Saurashtra, and his descendants have made a most determined resistance to the Muhammadan invaders, and “boast that they never gave a daughter in marriage to any of the Muhammedan Emperors.” They belong to the Sesodia sept of the Gehlot clan, the founder of which was Bappa Rawal, the Shepherd King, about whose wildness in his youthful days many tales are told. He was succeeded by his son Apraject, and he by Khalbhøj; then followed Khoman, who came to the throne in the beginning of the ninth century. He was a great warrior. There were fifteen princes who reigned between Khoman and Samarsi, during about four centuries. In 1201, Rahup was in possession of Chittor, and changed the name of his family and tribe from Gehlot to Sesodia, and the title of its ruler from Rāwal to Rāná. Between Rahup and Lakumsi nine princes came to the throne, and during

the reign of the last monarch (from 1275 to 1290), Chittor was twice besieged by the Pathan Emperor, Alâ Uddin, and finally taken and sacked; but was shortly afterwards recovered by Hamir, the only Hindu prince then left in India, and to whom the princes of Marwar (Jodhpur) and Jeypore paid homage. Méwar was now at the height of her prosperity, and her ruler one of the wisest and most noble of princes. He was succeeded in 1365 by his son Khaitsi, who rivalled his father in power and wisdom. He conquered the Emperor of Delhi and gained vast territories as his ransom. His successor was Lakha Rana, who ascended the throne in 1373. During his reign tin and silver mines were discovered at Jawura (near the present capital), the profits of which were expended upon rebuilding the palaces and temple destroyed by Ala-ud-din. Lakha also had several fine reservoirs and lakes excavated. He was slain in battle, and was succeeded by his youngest son Mokul, who was assassinated, and followed by Koombho, his son, in 1419. Tod, in his "Annals of Mewar," states that, "Of the eighty-four fortresses for the defence of Mewar, thirty-two were erected by Koombho;" he also built a citadel on the peak of Aboo, and contributed £80,000 towards the erection of a temple dedicated to Rishub-deva. This prince and royal architect was also a poet, and wrote verses in praise of Krishna; his consort was a daughter of the Rahtore of Marwar, who was also a poetess, and noted for her beauty and piety. After fifty years of prosperous sovereignty Koombho was stabbed by his son Ooda, who during his five years' reign was abandoned by his kindred and hated by his subjects for his unnatural crime. He was struck by lightning, and Raemul came to the throne in 1474. He was a good ruler, but his peace was disturbed by the quarrels of his three sons, the youngest of whom, Jeimal, fell a victim to intemperance. Sanga, the eldest, fled from home, fearing death at the



THE PALACE, UDAIPUR.  
[By *Lala Deen Dayal*.]

hands of his brother, Pirthi Raj. Sanga became ruler of Mewar in 1509. It is said that so powerful and prosperous was the state at this time that the Rana was "followed to the field of battle by 80,000 horse, seven Rajas of the highest rank, nine Raos, and one hundred and four chieftains bearing the title of Rawul and Rawut, with 500 war elephants. The princes of Marwar, Amber (Jeypore), the Raos of Gwalior, Ajmer, Sikri, Raesen, Kalpee, Chandéri, Boondi, Gaigrown, Rampoor, and Aboo, served him as tributaries, or held of him as chief." Sanga gained eighteen pitched battles against the kings of Delhi and Malwa, but shortly afterwards was attacked by Baber, the king of Ferghana, and defeated. He could not bear to return to Chittore unsuccessful, so he resolved to make the hills of Mewar his home until he could return victorious; but he died immediately afterwards, and is supposed to have been poisoned. He was succeeded by his son Rutna, who only reigned five years, and left the throne to his brother Bikramajeet, and during his unfortunate reign Chittore was taken by the Sultan of Guzerat, and fearful was the slaughter; 13,000 females were sacrificed to prevent their falling into the hands of the foe, 32,000 Rajputs were slain. Two Rajput nobles refused to acknowledge Bekramajeet as their king, and elected Bunbeer, who was banished in favour of Rana Oody Sing, who ascended the throne in 1542, but he was as weak as his two predecessors. At this time Akbar, the real founder of the Mughal Empire, was on the throne of Delhi, and at the age of twenty-nine he conquered Chittore, and carried off the emblems of royalty, valuables from the shrines, and the portals of the city. Oody Sing fled to the valley of Girwo, in the Aravalli Mountains, and founded the city of Oodipur, or Udaipur, the new capital—nearly all Rajput capitals bear the name of their founder. He died at

the age of forty-two, and was succeeded by Pertab, who possessed the spirit of his illustrious predecessors, but had neither capital nor resources. Yet he determined to try and regain the home of his ancestors. The chiefs flocked to his standard, when he entered the field against Akbar. He was, however, defeated. Udaipur fell into the hands of Mohabet Khan, and the Rajput prince and his family were fugitives. In 1530 he recovered the whole of Mewar except Chittore, Ajmere, and Mandelgurrh. He died in a hut on the site of the present palace of Udaipur, and his name is regarded with the greatest reverence. Umra, his eldest son, succeeded him, and Mewar was once more disturbed by the invasion of the Mughals; but again the invading army was repulsed; seventeen pitched battles were fought and won by the illustrious Rana Umra; but finally the crimson banner of Mewar, which for 800 years had waved in proud independence over the state, was taken by the Emperor Jehangir; and the last independent monarch of Mewar, Rana Umra, although most considerately and magnanimously treated, could not acknowledge the Mughals' Emperor as his superior. He resigned in favour of his son, Kurna, and retired to his palace outside the city walls, and then died. Rana Kurna reigned for eight years, and was succeeded in 1684 by Juggut Sing, the "lion of the world," whose coronation cost £1,125,000. The Emperor Jehangir shortly afterwards died, and was succeeded by his son the celebrated Shah Jehán, who after his accession visited Udaipur and received the homage of Rana Juggut Sing, to whom he restored five districts, and presented with a valuable ruby, and gave him permission to reconstruct the fortifications of Chittore. The Rana reigned for twenty-six years, devoting himself to beautifying his capital, the marvellous architecture of the palace and the portals and temples being the work of his hands. He was followed by his son Raj Sing ("the loyal lion"), and



the accession of Aurangzeb to the throne of Delhi was the beginning of an unhappy time for the Rajputs, for his ambition was insatiable, and Rana Raj Sing died in 1681, and was succeeded by his son, Jai Sing, who ruled for twenty years. The next ruler was Rana Umra, who concluded a treaty with the Emperor; he died in 1716, and was succeeded by Sangran Sing. Next came Jagat Singh II., who was compelled to pay *chauth* (one-fourth of the revenue) to the amount of £16,000 to the Mahrattas. This monarch died in 1752, and Partab Singh, who only reigned three years, followed. Then came Rana Raj Singh II, who reigned seven years, when the succession fell on his uncle, Rana Ursi, whose reign, through famine and civil war, was a most unhappy one. He was very unpopular. Sindhia laid siege to Udaipur, and the districts Jeram, Nimach and Marwar were mortgaged to him as security for the payment of £635,000, and have never been recovered. Rana Ursi was murdered while out hunting by the heir-apparent of Bundi. His son Rana Hamir, a minor, succeeded him; he died in 1778, and was followed by his brother Bhim Singh, during whose reign and the two previous ones Mewar was devastated alternately by Sindhia and Holkar. The Raja of Jeypur applied for the hand of the princess of Udaipur and was favourably received; but the Raja Man Singh of Marwar was also a suitor, and when refused he made war; so at last the Rana, to save his country from ruin, was compelled to poison his daughter. From 1806 to 1817 the state was ravaged by the Mahrattas and Pindaries until the chiefs of Rajputana were invited to ally themselves with the British Government. The Rana of Udaipur eagerly accepted the offer and signed a treaty. Maharana Bhim Singh died in 1828, and was succeeded by his only son, Jowan Sing, who died in 1842, and was succeeded by his younger and adopted brother, Swarrup Singh, who only reigned until 1861, and

his nephew and adopted son, Sambher Singh, next ascended the throne and reigned until 1874, and was succeeded by his first cousin, H.H. Sujjan Singh, G.C.S.I., the late Maharana, who was born in 1860, and during whose reign many important reforms have taken place. There is now a good road connecting the military station of Nasirabad and Nimach; another starting from Udaipur city runs to Nimach, and branches off to Nimbhera. A road has also been made from the city to Dasiere Pass running right through the Aravalli Mountains. There is also a state railway passing through the north-eastern part of the state. The Maharana died on the 23rd of December, 1884.

Udaipur, "The City of Sunrise," the capital of the state, is most picturesquely situated, on a rocky eminence 2,064 feet above the sea level; it overlooks a lake, and the beauty of the fine buildings is accentuated by the background of well-wooded hills. It is the loveliest city in the world, and contains, it is said, "buildings which are the best specimens of architecture in India." These novel buildings stand on green knolls, surrounded by acres of beautiful gardens, in which the song of birds mingles with the soft sound of fountains constantly playing, and groves of orange and lemon render the air fragrant for miles round. Everywhere you go are miniature lakes, bordered by aquatic plants and flowers in profusion. The city has a population of about 40,000, the city wall being guarded by fortresses; the Royal Palace, a magnificent building, somewhat resembling Windsor Castle, is thus described by Tod in his *Annals of Rajasthan*: "The palace is a most imposing pile, of a regular form, built of granite and marble, rising at least 100 feet from the ground, and flanked with octagonal towers, crowned with cupolas. Although built at various periods, uniformity of design has been very well preserved; nor is there in the East a more

striking and majestic structure. It stands upon the crest of a ridge running parallel to, but considerably elevated above, the margin of the lake ; the terrace, which is at the east and chief front of the palace, extends throughout its length, and is supported by a triple row of arches, from the declivity of the ridge. The height of this arcaded wall is full fifty feet, and although all is hollow underneath, yet it is so admirably constructed that an entire range of stables is built on the extreme verge of the terrace, on which the whole personal force of the Rana, elephants, horse, and foot, are often assembled. From this terrace the city and valley lie before the spectator, whose vision is bounded only by the hills shutting out the plains, while from the summit of the palace nothing obstructs its range over lake and mountain." On the lake are two island palaces, the Jug Newas and the Jug Munder. The latter was built for Shah Jehán when he fled to Udaipur after the revolt against his father, Jehangir. This palace is said "to have been adorned with a lofty dome crowned with the crescent. The interior was decorated with mosaic in onyx, cornelian, jaspers, and agates, rich Turkey carpets, etc., and a throne was sculptured from a single block of serpentine, supported by quadriform female Caryatidæ." It was in this palace that the new emperor, after the death of Jehangir, was first saluted by the title of Shah Jehán.

Both these lake palaces are built entirely of marble, the interior being decorated with rich paintings. About two miles from the city is the Maha Sâti, where the sovereigns of the state and their wives and families have been buried since their expulsion from the ancient capital, Chittore, in 1580. A magnificent tomb was erected to Singram Singh, and twenty-one of his wives, in 1733 ; its octagonal dome is supported on fifty-six pillars. An interesting temple, sacred



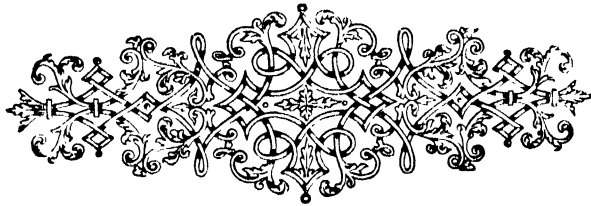
UDAIPUR.

to Mahadeo, the tutelary deity of the Mewar Rajputs, is about eleven miles from the city, and in this temple the Maharana himself performs all the ceremonial rites. The state is full of fine buildings and interesting villages and towns, and the scenery alone would enrapture an artist.

The feudatory nobles of the state number nineteen first rank and thirty-two second, who in their own territory preserve as much pomp and ceremony as their monarch. In durbar these nobles take rank above the heir-apparent, and when they enter the Maharana's presence the whole Court rises. The Maharana's military force consists of 1,338 artillerymen, 6,270 cavalry, 13,900 infantry, and the state contributes £5,000 yearly towards the maintenance of a corps of Bhils, and pays a tribute of £20,000 to the British Government. The feudatory chiefs receive a large part of the revenue, but also contribute towards the expenditure and requirements of the state. The Maharanas used only to be entitled to a salute of nineteen guns, but during the reign of the late Maharana it was raised to twenty-one guns. His Highness Dhiraj Sir Fateh Sing Bahadur, G.C.S.I., the present Maharana, was born in 1850, and succeeded the late Maharana Sujjan Sing in 1884. His Highness has married only one wife, and has several children. All the reforms initiated by the late Maharana have been carried on; his Highness has expended large sums upon important irrigation works, and within the last five years new roads have been constructed; schools, dispensaries, jail, barracks, civil offices, and other important public buildings have been erected. His Highness, working in connection with the National Association for Supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India, has built a new hospital, and also maintains a lady doctor in his state; he takes a personal interest in social reform questions, more

especially those relating to the curtailment of expenditure on the occasion of marriages and funerals, which hamper the middle and poorer classes with a load of debt which swallows up all they earn.

The Maharana is a thoroughly good ruler, simple in his tastes, amiable, and most loyal to the British Government. He is also a keen sportsman.





HIS HIGHNESS SIR SAWA MADHO SINGH, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF JEYPORE.

## JEYPORE.

HIS HIGHNESS SIR SAWA MADHO SINGH, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF JEYPORE.



JEYPORE, one of the largest and most important of the Rajput States in India, is alike picturesque and interesting. Its many hills and peaks crowned with forts, its fertile plains and fine rivers, the towns abounding with important relics of antiquity, and the exquisite stone carvings and mosaics, combine to make it a veritable earthly paradise to travellers.

The soil of the country is mostly sandy and not well wooded, but the state is rich in mineral wealth, which yet remains to be profitably developed. Copper ore, cobalt, and nickel are found in abundance. The cobalt is used for enamelling, and is also largely exported, for the same purpose, to Hyderabad (Deccan) and Delhi. Carbuncles and turquoise are procurable in some parts. Salt is manufactured to the extent of 50,000 tons per annum.

The state occupies an area of 14,465 square miles, with a population comprised of Rajputs, Muhammadans, and Jains, numbering 2,534,537, and the annual revenue is estimated at £1,200,000. The military forces of the Maharaja comprise 1,000 artillerymen, 4,500 cavalry, and 16,000 infantry. Among the most interesting towns in the state are—Náráyana with many ancient temples, and also noteworthy as being the headquarters of a peculiar religious sect called the “Dádei Pánthis,” who worship only one God, and have neither temple nor idol. It is



from this sect that the state obtains her foot soldiers called Nágas, who bear the reputation of being faithful and brave. Dosa is noted as the place where the rebel, Tantia Topi, was caught. Khetri has a fine fort and valuable copper mines.

According to Sir William Hunter, "the Maharaja of Jeypore is the chief of the Kachhwaha tribe of Rajputs, and claims descent from Ráma, King of Ajodhya, in Oudh. Between the mythical Ráma and Dhola Rao, who founded the Jeypore State in A.D. 967, thirty-four generations are said to have intervened." It is difficult to give an authentic account of the early history of the state previous to its founding by Dhola Rao, who built the beautiful city of Amber, the ancient capital. Before this period the country had been divided under many petty chiefs, all subject to the Emperors of Delhi. Prince followed prince, but in a succession of unimportance until Jey Singh I., who held a high position in the Imperial Court. He excelled Solomon in multiplicity of wives, for he had 1,500, sixty of whom sacrificed themselves on his funeral pyre. It would be interesting to know if his successor had to take the remaining 1,440 wives with the state, or if they were pensioned off? The old historians very wisely never enter into trifling details of this kind; they simply lay the facts before the readers, leaving it to their imagination to weave the connecting links.

The twenty-seventh chief of Jeypore was Sawai Jey Singh II., the title of "Sawai" or  $1\frac{1}{4}$  was given him by the Emperor, and signified his superiority over his contemporaries. This famous prince founded the city of Jeypore in 1728, and made it the seat of government because the old capital Amber had become too small for his rapidly growing state. Jey Singh II. was one of the most remarkable men of his day, having been a great statesman and general, a skilled engineer

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and architect, an able mathematician and astronomer. He built five observatories, and fitted them up with instruments invented by himself; he drew up a set of tables from which astronomical computations are yet made; reformed the Indian calendar, and erected caravanserais for the free accommodation of travellers. His energy and industry were untiring. He patronised art and learning, and carried on all his work in the midst of perpetual wars and court intrigues. He died in 1743 after a reign of forty-four years. The whole history of the Jeypore royal family proves the chiefs to have been men of uncommon ability, and specially superior as regards military tactics. On friendly terms with the Mughal power, they each in succession became distinguished generals in the Imperial army. Jey Singh's death was followed by a long period of strife and disputes between Jeypore and Jodhpur, until in 1818 a treaty was entered into with the British Government to extend its protection to Jeypore, and an annual tribute was fixed. Even then, owing to the minority of two successive rulers, the state was disturbed by faction and woefully misgoverned, until Maharaja Ram Singh in 1835, at the age of two years, became ruler; during his minority the British Government took measures to reform the administration, and the state was gradually restored to order, and rose from poverty to prosperity; peace and content reigned where formerly nothing but strife and consequent misery were to be found. The Maharaja on attaining his majority wisely supported the reform that had been effected. At the time of the Mutiny he placed the whole of his army at the disposal of the Government, and assisted the British in every possible way; for his services he received a grant of the district of Kot Kasim, and was granted the inherited right of adoption. The Maharaja was fond of the society of cultivated English men and women, he encouraged educational progress, and

acquired wide fame for his enlightened and just policy. His Highness annually contributed 80,000 rupees towards the support of an English and Sanscrit college, girls' school, and a school of industrial art. During the famine of 1868 in Rajputana he gave large sums towards the relief of the sufferers, and for his liberality he received an addition to his salute of two guns for life. The Maharaja sat as one of the members of the Mixed Commission of Europeans and natives by which Madho Rao, Gaekwar of Baroda, was tried, in 1875, for an attempt to poison the British Resident. The Prince of Wales visited Jeypore in 1875, and laid the foundation stone of the Albert Hall, built by the Maharaja as a memorial of the visit of his Royal Highness. In the following year his salute was raised to twenty-one guns. He reigned from 1835 to 1880. Having no sons, he, in accordance with Hindu law and custom, adopted a young noble of his clan, who was then living in exile, and almost in penury, at Tonk. The nomination was confirmed by the Indian Government, and he became the present and thirty-fifth Maharaja of Jeypore, under the name of Sawa Madho Singh. Full powers were given him in 1882 on his attaining twenty-two years of age. His Highness is a clever and enlightened ruler, who follows in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessors, and acts up to the motto of his house, "Where virtue is, is victory," encourages learning and native arts, promotes many important reforms, peacefully reigns over a model state, and proves himself as loyal and devoted to the British Government as was the late Maharaja.

The capital, Jeypore, "the city of victory," an important commercial centre, is the largest town in Rajputana, and indeed, the finest modern Hindu city in India; it has a delightful climate, and possesses every natural as well as artificial beauty that bountiful nature combined with

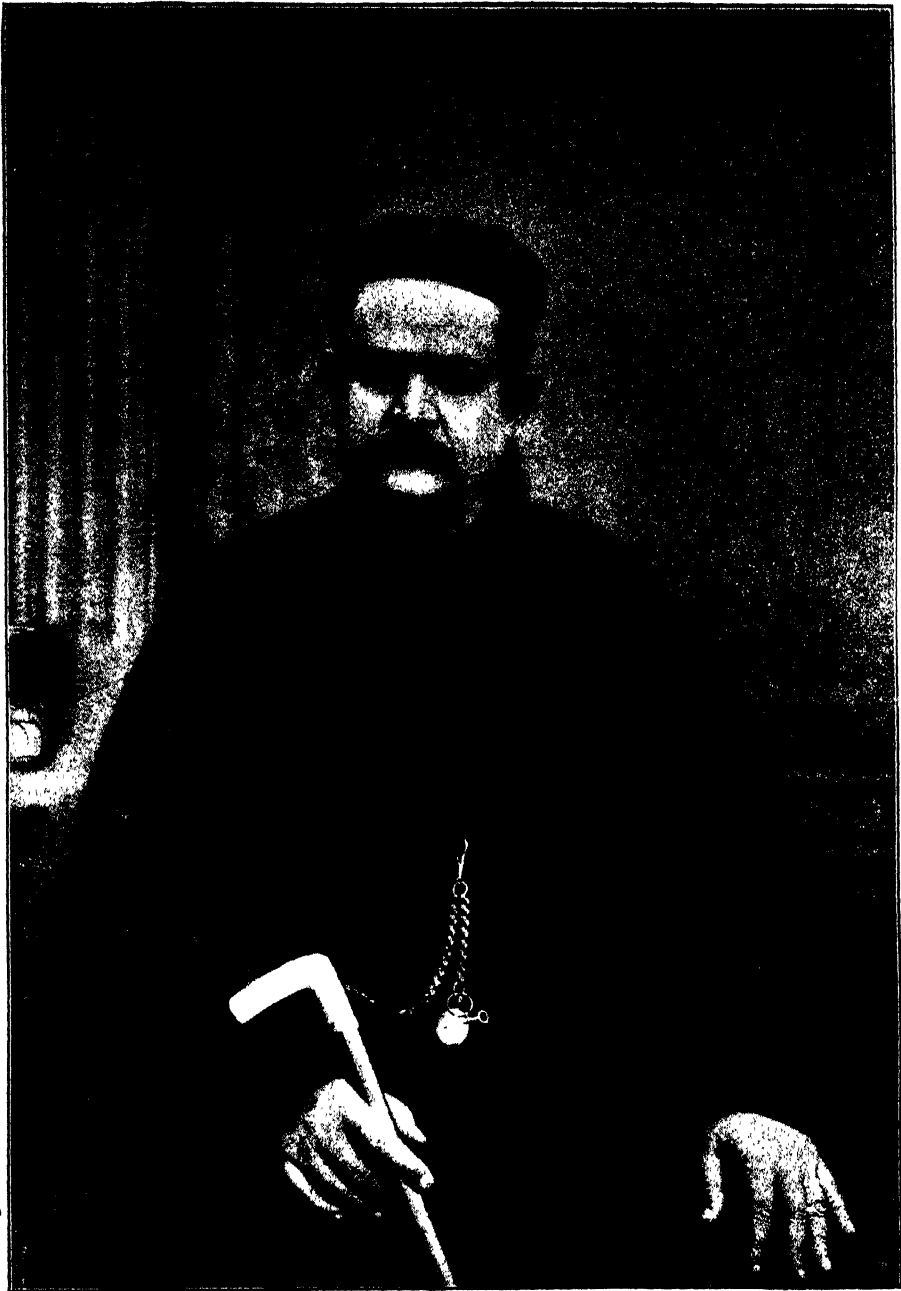
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skill and art can confer. The city is surrounded by a massive wall, having seven portals. On all sides except the south there are rugged hills crowned with forts. The principal street is over two miles long and 111 feet wide; this is crossed by two other side roads which divide the town into six parts. The main streets are paved and well lighted with gas, which was formerly made from castor oil, but is now obtained from kerosine. The streets present ever-varying scenes of interest. The most brilliant costumes, eager bargainers gathered round huge piles of glowing fruit, throngs of busy passengers, trains of camels, stately elephants, bullock carts, follow one another rapidly through the crowded thoroughfares, until the delighted eye becomes wearied with the kaleidoscopic effect of this unique panorama of orientalism. It is strange, among all this bustle, to see thousands of pigeons strutting about among the people, or flying overhead, as fearless and as much at home as if they were in their own dove-cots. The business buildings and places of worship are mostly in the widest thoroughfares; the Maharaja's palace and pleasure grounds occupy the central block, which is about one-seventh of the whole town. The houses of the nobility and citizens are in the suburbs built with flat roofs, and finished off with kiosks and domes; the exterior wall is faced with white marble, which gives the town a dazzling appearance; even ordinary dwellings are decorated with a brilliant and many-coloured stucco. The palace and public buildings are triumphs of artistic skill. One room in the Flower Palace, took a Jeypore artist fifteen years to paint; the ceiling, which is thirty feet long and twenty feet broad, is covered with pictures of gods and fairies in circular frames, the groundwork being in floral and geometrical forms. The palace is approached by the Tripolia Gate; a second gate opens into a square, in which are the entrances to the zenana, stables and kitchen; a

third gate leads into an enclosure in which are the State printing-office and the entrance to the audience chamber of the nobles. Surgeon-Major Hendley thus describes the palace: "The Chanda Mahal, or principal palace, which faces the extensive gardens, is a seven-storeyed building. On the ground floor is the Pilasn Newas, a winter chamber glazed with talc. The second story, or Shobha Newas, is richly decorated with floral designs in fresco. The portion of it next the garden is covered with quaint paintings of great interest. The walls and roofs of the Sukh Newas above have been adorned with mirrors and gorgeously enamelled shells of copper, silver, and foil."

"The Chhabi Newas," or Hall of Brilliancy, comes next; then the Shish Mahal, a brightly glazed room; and at the summit is the Mukut, or Crown Palace, from which a wonderful view of the whole town and of the surrounding hills and forts can be obtained. Looking to the north, the Great Temple of Govindji can be seen between the upper and lower gardens, the "Badal Mahal," or Cloud Palace, on the border of the Talkatora, or palace lake, and the distant walls of Amber. The private library and armoury, with their invaluable treasures, are placed in the buildings immediately to the south of the Chanda Mahal Court.

The public buildings are numerous and handsome, and include astronomical and meteorological observatories, the Albert Hall and Jeypore Museum, built at a cost of five lakhs of rupees, and maintained at the expense of his Highness the Maharaja. The Museum contains some of the finest examples in existence of Indian art—wood and ivory carvings, lacquer-work, stone carvings, and images. Jeypore supplies nearly the whole of Brahminical India with its images. The School of Art, with over 100 pupils, gives free instruction to students in the following technical arts: Modelling and pottery, electro-plating, en-



THE DEWAN SAHEB, JEYPORE.

graving, sculpture, filigree work, turnery, wood-carving, and enamelling. Several medals have been awarded the school. The Maharaja's College is also a fine institution, with over 1,000 pupils on its register. Educational establishments are very numerous, and include eight for females. There is also a good public library containing over 8,000 volumes. The fine Mayo Hospital is built of white stone, with a clock tower, and has accommodation for 120 patients. Besides these handsome buildings there is a public garden of seventy acres, which cost 400,000 rupees to lay out, and 30,000 rupees per annum to keep it up. The menagerie, with the huge tigers, which are fed at the Maharaja's expense, and the Royal stables—where 300 horses and 50 elephants are kept, besides cheetahs and hunting leopards—are most interesting. Sir William Hunter, in the "Imperial Gazetteer," states that there are "as many as seven banking firms in Jeypore whose aggregate business amounts to about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  crores of rupees (say £2,500,000), and who possess a capital of upwards of £6,000,000 sterling. In addition to these there are several minor houses whose collective business may be estimated at half-a-crore (say £500,000) a year." This beautiful city is full of handsome buildings, both for private and public use. The Mint, Jail, Imperial Post Office, numerous dispensaries, almshouses, and hospitals, as well as its commercial prosperity, are due to the wonderful organising capability and public spirit of the late Maharaja, whose memory is held in reverence by all who knew him. That the prosperity and progress of the state still continues and advances speaks volumes as to the character and ability of his Highness the present Maharaja, whose whole career proves him to be a worthy descendant of the ancient Kshattriyas, "The Twice Born." The Rajputs date back many centuries before Christ, and their language, religion, laws, and learning prove them even then to have been a marvel-

lous race, the highest type mental and bodily of Indian mankind, and they still maintain the same standard. The Government report states that "Jeypore is efficiently governed"; and if the best proof of civilisation is, as an American writer avers, "When the whole public action of the state is directed on securing 'the greatest good of the greatest number,'" then, indeed, is Jeypore efficiently governed, and his Highness the Maharaja must be placed foremost among the reformer princes of India. The products and industry of this interesting state must be mentioned. First and foremost come the precious stones—garnets, the finest in the world—from a fine yellow to a deep purple, colours which are found in the Jeypore state, as are also the beryl and turquoise, and for all kinds of art work it is unsurpassed. Gold and silver lace of exquisite delicacy are made; but it is as regards enamelling that Jeypore stands pre-eminent. The beauty of the work is indescribable; it is done on gold, the colours used being metallic oxides, made adhesive by fire. The red colour, for which Jeypore is so famous, is the most difficult to apply. Gems are used occasionally to enhance the brilliancy of the design. The Prince of Wales brought several fine specimens to England, which were greatly admired.

A great deal of jewellery is worn by the native women, even the poorest; the jewels of a head queen weigh forty pounds, and the lace edging her voluminous skirts as much more. It would take too long to enumerate half the treasures which can be picked up in the sale rooms of Jeypore curio dealers; every form of native industry is represented, jewellery, Damascus-work, all kinds of articles and animals carved in marble, cobweb-like muslins worked in gold and silver, all varieties of cotton fabrics of the finest materials, and most exquisite colourings; for dyeing is one of the arts in which Jeypore excels.

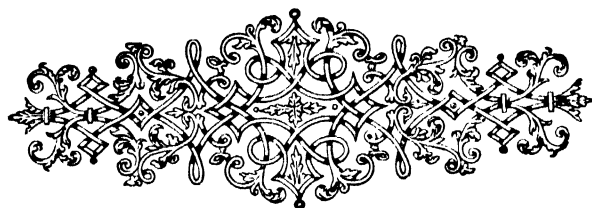


A pleasant excursion from Jeypore is a visit to the beautiful but deserted old capital of the State, Amber, which is about five miles from Jeypore. The route leads past temples and gardens and fine mansions, a portion of the journey is performed on an elephant, and on entering the once beautiful city, one is irresistibly reminded of the words, "And their city shall be left to them desolate." Uninhabited, except by a few poor fakirs, the heavy footsteps of the elephants along the lonely streets seem to wake a sort of dull echo, which arouses a feeling of awe almost akin to fear. The magnificent old Rajput palace is situated on the slope of a hill, above a lake, the summit being surrounded by a fortress. The principal gateway is said, by a noted authority, to be "the finest entrance to a large building in the world." The rooms are worthy of minute examination—the one called "Jey Mandir" or "Hall of Victory," has its marble halls decorated with carvings and inlaid work of most exquisite colouring, and a roof of spangled mirror-work. Some of the rooms have painted glass windows, and in one of the bath rooms, is some stained glass said to have been brought from Venice by the overland route several centuries ago. In one of the numerous apartments there are curious fresco paintings of Hindu towns. The beautifully-laced and pierced stonework, the delicate colouring and dazzling brilliancy of some of the ceilings, recall Sir Edwin Arnold's description of the "Golden Home" in "The Light of Asia," "where the moon glittered through the lace-worked stone, lighting the walls of pearl shell and the floors paved with veined marble." If, as Emerson says, "Strasburg Cathedral is a material counterpart of the soul of Erwin of Steinbach," then is the palace of Amber the counterpart of the souls of the old Rajput princes, a mixture of artistic delicacy and refinement, with the oriental love of brilliancy and effect—a vivid

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imagination, controlled by the most exquisite taste, and execution ; stately piles of buildings finished with minute exactness, and with such a wealth of ornament that only a poet could do justice to the same.

The temple of Jagat Seromani is another fine structure. Behind the palace there is a temple dedicated to the Sun, with an inscription dated 954 A.D. There is also a sacred spring, said by the priests in charge to be the true Ganges. At Sanganar, also, there are several fair edifices of great antiquity, some a thousand years old.





HIS HIGHNESS RAJ. RAJISHWAR MAHARAJ ADHIRAJ SIR JASWANT SINGH  
BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF JODHPUR.  
*(Bourne & Shepherd.)*

## JODHPUR.

HIS HIGHNESS RAJ. RAJISHWAR MAHARAJ ADHIRAJ SIR JASWANT SINGH  
BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF JODHPUR.



JODHPUR, or, as it is sometimes called, "Marwar," which signifies "Region of Death," is by far the largest state in Rajputana. It covers an area of 37,000 square miles, and has 3,785 towns and villages with a population of 2,850,403 souls, and a revenue of £230,000. Its extreme length N.E. to S.W. is 290 miles, and its greatest breadth 130 miles. It is bounded on the north by Bikaner and the Shaikwati districts of Jeypore; on the east by Jeypore and Kishangarh; on the south-east by Ajmere-Marwara; on the south by Sirohi and Palanpur; and on the west by the Rann of Cutch; and on the north-west by Jaisalmir. The country is mostly a vast sandy tract traversed by the river Suni and its many tributaries; here and there rise isolated hills some of which are 1,000 feet in height, the most notable being the Naddlai Hill, on which a colossal stone elephant has been placed; the Punnagir Hill, the Sojat, the Sandaras Hill, and the Jalor Hill. The soil is poor except in the valley of the Suni river, which produces large crops of wheat and barley. Opium is cultivated near the Aravalli range of hills, and tobacco and sugar cane, but the principal source of wealth to the state is salt, which is obtained in very large quantities, chiefly from the famous lake of Sambhar. The principal manufactures are turbans, scarfs, and embroidered silk.

The founder of the Jodhpur dynasty was of the Rahtor clan of Rajputs, and this noble and martial race, according to Tod, trace their pedigree to Cush, the second son of Rama. Their genealogical roll, kept in the temple of Nadolaye in Marwar, was fifty feet in length. When Jai Chand, the last monarch of Khanauj, died, in A.D. 1194, his grandson Sivaji with a few followers sought an asylum in Marwar, and after repelling large bands of marauders who plundered the country, he was invited by the Brahmin community to settle there, which he did, and speedily became possessed of great power, as well as land.

His son Asthan, who succeeded, conquered the land of Kher and added it to his possessions. He died leaving eight sons, who all became the heads of clans, but it was Chander, the tenth in succession from Sivaji, who conquered Marwar: he was slain in battle in 1465, and was succeeded by Rao Rir Mall, a famous warrior of gigantic stature, who was married to the Rana of Mewar. Rao Rir Mall had twenty-four sons, the eldest of whom—called Jodha—succeeded him, and founded the city of Jodhpur. The site chosen was the summit of Jodagir, or the "Hill of Strife," a position which nature had rendered almost impregnable, and from which the whole of the surrounding country could be commanded. Jodha lived thirty years after founding his capital, and was succeeded by his son Sujar, who reigned for twenty-seven years, and was killed while rescuing 140 maidens who had been carried away by the Pathans. He was succeeded by his son Ganga, who assisted Mewar in opposing the Mughals, at the time invading that state. Ganga was followed by Maldeo, A.D. 1532, who became the most powerful prince in India and conquered the best part of Rajputana. He erected many fortifications, strengthened his capital, round which he built a massive wall, erected a fine palace and fortress at a cost of some £24,000: he

derived his wealth for all these works from the Salt Lake at Sambhur. His possessions numbered thirty-eight districts, of which five have 360 towns each, and none have less than eighty. For ten years he reigned peaceably, and by every wise measure strengthened his immense territory. Baber, the founder of the Mughal dynasty, was dead, and his son Humayan, a fugitive in hiding in Marwar, with his infant son. Akbar Maldeo had refused them protection, and his inhospitable conduct was punished by his army being defeated by Sher Shah, the Afghan usurper of the Delhi throne, and later, during the minority of Prince Akbar, the Mughal armies were successful in taking several important strongholds in Marwar, and eventually the chief of Jodhpur had to bow to necessity, and send his second son with presents, and to do homage to the Emperor Akbar; but he had too much of the unbending spirit of the Rahtors to become a courtier, so his elder brother Udai Singh took his place at Delhi, and becoming one of the commanders of "one thousand" in the Mughal army, was distinguished by the title of "Moota Raj," or the "Fat Rajah."

Rao Maldeo died about A.D. 1584, and after his death the Rahtors were compelled to acknowledge the supremacy of the Mughal power, and to maintain a contingent of their vassals (who were all of their own kin and blood), commanded by the heir to the throne of Marwar, ready at any time to serve the Empire. Shortly after his father's death Udai Singh gave his sister Jodhbai in marriage to Akbar, who, in return, restored the districts he had conquered in Marwar—with the exception of Ajmere—in addition to several rich districts in Malwa. The Emperor continued to heap favours upon Udai Singh (whom he used to call "King of the Desert") until the death of the latter, which occurred thirteen years after his accession to the throne of Jodhpur;

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he was succeeded in 1595 by his son Raja Sur Singh, who was at the time serving in the Imperial forces at Lahore. He had already distinguished himself as a soldier, and gained great honour with the Emperor for conquering Guzerat. Nearly the whole of his life was spent away from his native land, and he died in the Deccan in 1620, his son Guj Singh succeeding him; he emulated his father in bravery, and had every possible honour and wealth heaped upon him, the crowning mark of the Emperor's confidence and esteem being his appointment to the high post of Viceroy of the Deccan, and his followers were exempted from the custom of having their horses branded with the Imperial signet. His whole career was a series of triumphs, and he was slain in battle in 1638, leaving two sons, Umra and Jaswant, the second of whom succeeded, as Umra had forfeited his birthright and been banished. Raja Jaswant was "unequalled among the princes of his time"—enlightened, intellectual, and a great warrior, devoted and faithful to the power to which he had pledged himself; when, during the illness of the aged Emperor Shah Jehán, his sons attempted to usurp the throne, Raja Jaswant was in command of the army sent out against Aurangzeb, and was defeated. Aurangzeb never really forgave Jaswant for his loyalty to the old Emperor, although he pretended to do so, and in order to get rid of him sent him to quell a revolution among the Afghans, from which expedition he never returned. He left no successor but his posthumous son Ajit Singh, whose life during his infancy was often in danger from the tyrant Aurangzeb, whose enmity against the father had descended to the son. When only a few weeks old the custody of the infant prince was demanded by Aurangzeb, who offered the late chief's retainers rich presents if they would give up their prince. This they indignantly refused to do, and a fearful contest ensued

between them and the Imperial Guards, in the streets of Delhi; the prince was safely conveyed out of the city, concealed in a basket of sweetmeats, and the female relatives of the deceased monarch, together with the wives and daughters of the chieftains, were blown up with gunpowder, in order that they should not fall into the Emperor's vengeful hands. The heir to the throne of Jodhpur was conveyed by his father's faithful friends to a monastery situated upon the isolated rock of Aboo, and there carefully reared, but in total ignorance of his rank and position. During his minority Aurangzeb attacked and took the city of Jodhpur, and all the other principal towns, the temples and mosques, in the state were destroyed, and all the Rahtors compelled to embrace Islamism. This arbitrary measure produced the natural result; every Rajput made common cause, and determined to oppose the Muhammadan power and throw off the tyrant's yoke. The Imperial host, like a cloud, covered the land until the whole country was laid waste; the Rajputs fought for their country and princes with such desperate devotion that Prince Akbar's heart was touched; he offered peace, and a treaty being concluded, the house of Delhi thus became divided against itself, Prince Akbar's proceedings being in opposition to the wishes of his father Aurangzeb. The Rajputs united to defend the former, and refused large bribes to deliver him into his father's hands.

The heads of the clans, who knew the young Raj of Jodhpur was somewhere in concealment, became anxious to see him, which wish was granted by his guardians; and Prince Ajit Sing received for the first time his faithful vassals, who did homage and gave him valuable presents, and he was taken to visit each chief in turn, by whom he was royally received and entertained, and, when of suitable age, Raja Ajit was affianced to a princess of Mewar, and shortly afterwards married



with great pomp at Udaipur. A few years afterwards he regained possession of his ancestral palace at Jodhpur, only to be compelled to leave it two years later, and in 1766 Raja Ajit made friends with Aurangzeb. In 1720 Ajit sent his eldest son Abhye Singh to the Court of Delhi and he was made commander of "five thousand." Ajit Singh was murdered by his son Bukhta Singh at the instigation of his brother Abhye. This prince, who was one of the most distinguished in the annals of Jodhpur, was only forty-five when he was cruelly murdered; his son Abhye Singh succeeded him, and he died 1750. Ram Singh was the next monarch, and his reign was not a long one, for he was dethroned by his uncle Bukhta, who in turn was succeeded by his son Beejy Singh, and a disastrous war ensued between him and the ex-Prince Ram Singh, who joined forces with the Mahrattas, completely overthrowing Beejy Singh. Ram Singh died (in exile at Jeypore), and the country of Jodhpur was wasted by the Mahrattas.

The state of Jodhpur then was a great contrast to its former usurp thity; her coffers were empty, her lands uncultivated, and her against Aur dissatisfied and dissolute, and at constant variance with the Jaswant for hSindia conquered Jeypore, and levied a tribute of £60,000 so, and retaining the town and fort of Ajmere. Beejy died after a the A. of thirty-one years, and the throne was seized (to the exclusion cess.he rightful heir) by his grandson, Bheem Singh, who murdered all who were likely to dispute his rights except Man Singh, who was saved by one of the chiefs. Raja Bheem was himself deserted by his friends, and died in misery; and Raja Man Singh came to the throne in 1804, and years of turbulence ensued through internal disturbances and a war with Jeypore, on account of the daughter

of the Rana of Udaipur, both Rajas being suitors for her hand. Another false step that Raja Man Singh made was inviting the aid of the Pindari freebooter, Amoo Khan, to arrange his quarrel with Jeypore, the result of which being that Raja Man Singh was persuaded to feign insanity and to abdicate; his son, Chhatar, acting as regent. The British Government entered into a treaty with him in 1818 to take Jodhpur under its protection, and the tribute payable to Sindhia was transferred to the British, and the Raja engaged to furnish a contingent of 1,500 horse when required, and the *whole* force of the state if necessary,. Chhatar Singh died soon after this, and his father resumed the administration.

The Raja in 1824 made over temporarily to the British Government the lands, the lease of which expired in 1843, but the Raja expressing his willingness to continue the arrangement, this tract still remains under British administration as well as the desert tract of Wallam.

Raja Man Singh was a capricious tyrant, equally treacherous to friend and enemy. His misgovernment caused an insurrection, so that the British Government were compelled to interfere, and Jodhpur city was held by an armed force for five months.

Four years later Raja Man Singh died, leaving no heir by blood or adoption. The election of a fitting successor was left to the nobles and state officials, and their choice fell upon Takht Singh, chief of Ahmednagar, a descendant of Raja Ajit Singh. Raja Takht Singh could hardly be called a good ruler. Continuous disputes occurred between the state officials and the feudatory chiefs; no measures of reform were adopted, and the progress of the state was not generally satisfactory. The late Raja died in the February of 1873, and was

succeeded by his son, Maharaja Jaswant Singh, the present ruler, who was born in 1837.

The form of government is feudal, and the tribal chief is the ruler of his estate, with full jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases. The feudatory chiefs, or *Thakors*, owe military service to the paramount power, exacting the same from their brethren to whom lands have been assigned. Sir William Hunter gives further explanation of this patriarchal form of government which—providing that the chiefs recognise their duties to their head, and live in harmony one with another—is eminently favourable to the general good and the protection of personal property: “The fiscal lands are managed by hakims, or provincial governors, but these hardly amount to one-fifth of those in the possession of Thakors and jagirdars. The right of Government to a certain money rate, or share of the produce, is so well understood that the agricultural classes everywhere live in comparative security.” The revenue of the state is mostly derived from the land, salt, and custom dues, and all the nobles are very rich. The military force of the state, in addition to the Erinpura irregular force, consists of 20 field and 250 other guns, 240 gunners, 3,545 cavalry, and 5,020 infantry. Jodhpur city, the capital of the state, was built in 1549 by Rao Jodha, and is one of the finest towns in India; it is situated on the slope of a small range of hills which rises about 350 feet above the plain, while on an isolated hill, rising to the height of 800 feet, stands the fort, inside of which is the Maharaja's palace, or rather a succession of palaces, for it covers nearly half the area of the citadel; every ruler, since it was first built, having added a little to the magnificent structure. The reception hall is called the “Hall of a thousand pillars.”

The city is surrounded by a strong wall six miles in extent, with

seven noble gateways or portals. The streets are very regular, the principal thoroughfares being lined with splendid edifices built of free-stone. Beside the Maharaja's palaces they comprise the town houses of the nobles and several fine temples and banks. A fine new jail has recently been built, and three dispensaries, and two large schools, one for the sons of nobles, and the other for the trading classes; in both schools English is taught as well as the vernacular language.

His Highness Maharaja Jaswant Singh, G.C.S.I., came to the throne in 1873, and since his accession the administration has been carried on in a very creditable manner, the interests of the state and the welfare of the people being his Highness's chief consideration. An important movement was the appointment of four of the leading Thakors, or feudatory chiefs, to seats in the State Council. Special attention has also been paid to forest conservancy, and codes and manuals for the regulation of the courts of justice and state departments have been published and are largely sold.

The Western Rajputana Railway connects the Rajputana State Railway at Ajmere with the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway at Ahmedabad, and the Jodhpur Railway yielded in 1890 a net return of eight per cent. on the capital outlay.

The state supports schools in most of the towns, and in every large village there is one presided over by the local priest. His Highness is always liberal, and responds with alacrity to any call that has for its object the support of charitable institutions or the spread of education. Most of his subjects can read and write Hindi, and the same may be said of the ladies of good birth and rank, a circumstance peculiar to this state.

In the suburbs of the city and outside the walls is a fine temple,

and near it are two palaces, one of which is the residence of his Highness the Maharaja's confidential priest, the other was the residence of his predecessors ; it is kept sacred, no one being allowed to sleep in this palace. Over the bed of the late priest is a beautiful golden canopy. Three miles from the city are the ruins of Mandor, the ancient capital of Marwar, and the burial place of her noble princes of the past. The architecture is mostly Jain, and the material used for the construction is polished freestone. These temple monuments are built on terraces with lofty vaulted porches, some being three or four stories high, and richly ornamented and sculptured, especially that sacred to the memory of Raja Ajit Singh, at whose death sixty-four females sacrificed themselves. The stupendous structures are full of interest as memorials of the illustrious Rajputs in whose honour they were raised. Here may also be seen stone effigies of gigantic warriors fully armed, and some on horse-back. At a little distance stand the ruins of Raja Ajit Singh's palace, with its many beautiful coloured halls and once lovely gardens, guarded by rocky walls, and cooled by many fountains and lakes ; gigantic and venerable mango and palm trees grow here as well as flowers as rich in colour as they are in odour ; delicious pomegranates for which the state is so famed, and which for flavour and excellence rival " The Golden Pomegranates of Eden," are also produced in abundance.

The villages are strongly fenced round, and the dwellings have mud walls and are shaped like a beehive and with a thatch roof. The lower classes are simple and frugal in their habits, and hard-working ; while the agricultural classes at times suffer privation from poor food and bad water.

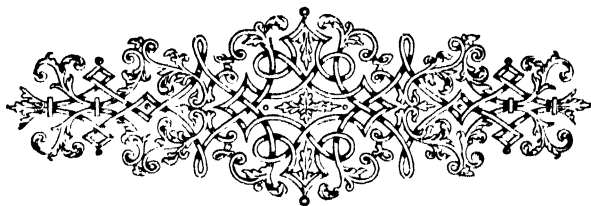
A great deal has been done by the present Maharaja to better the condition of his poorer subjects and to combat the natural disadvantages

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of the country with regard to scarcity of water and consequent failure of crops and famine, and each year sees some improvement effected, and measures of reform carried out.

Altogether the state is very efficiently governed and prosperous. A large amount of money is annually spent on public works, and yet the expenditure is less than the revenue—a sure sign of wise government.

His Highness is married to eight wives, the principal Maharani being the daughter of Jamnagar; he has one son, called Maharaj Kunneir Sirdar Singh. The chief State official is Maharaj Dhiraj Singh, and the Prime Minister is Sir Pertab Singh, K.C.S.I. The Maharaja is now 54 years of age.





## ULWAR.

LIEUT -COL. HIS HIGHNESS SAWAI SIR MANGAL SINGH BAHADUR, G.C.S.I.,  
MAHARAJA OF ULWAR.



THE native State of Ulwar is composed of several tracts called the Raht—which lie on the north-west border, and is the home of the Chauhan Rajputs, the Wal, on the western border, occupied by Rajputs of the Skekhawat clan, portions of Narukhand—on the south-east—also of the Rajawat country, which is on the south-western border, and was once the territory of the powerful Rajawat Rajputs of Jeypore. More than half the territory of the state lies in Mewat, which possesses several fine hill ranges.

The whole area is 3,024 square miles, containing 1,747 towns and villages, with a population of 682,926 souls; and a revenue of £230,000. No tribute or contribution towards a local contingent is paid by Ulwar, which, like Udaipur, is remarkable for picturesque beauty, excellence of situation, and fine buildings. The name is often spelt "Alwar," and in olden times it was called Machery, when the state only consisted of petty chiefships, paying tribute to Jeypore and Bhurtpur. The history of Ulwar, or Machery, as an independent state only commences after the death of Madhu Sing, Raja of Jeypore, during whose reign Pertab Singh—a Naruka Rajput, who was then chief of Machery, and who became the founder of the present ruling family of

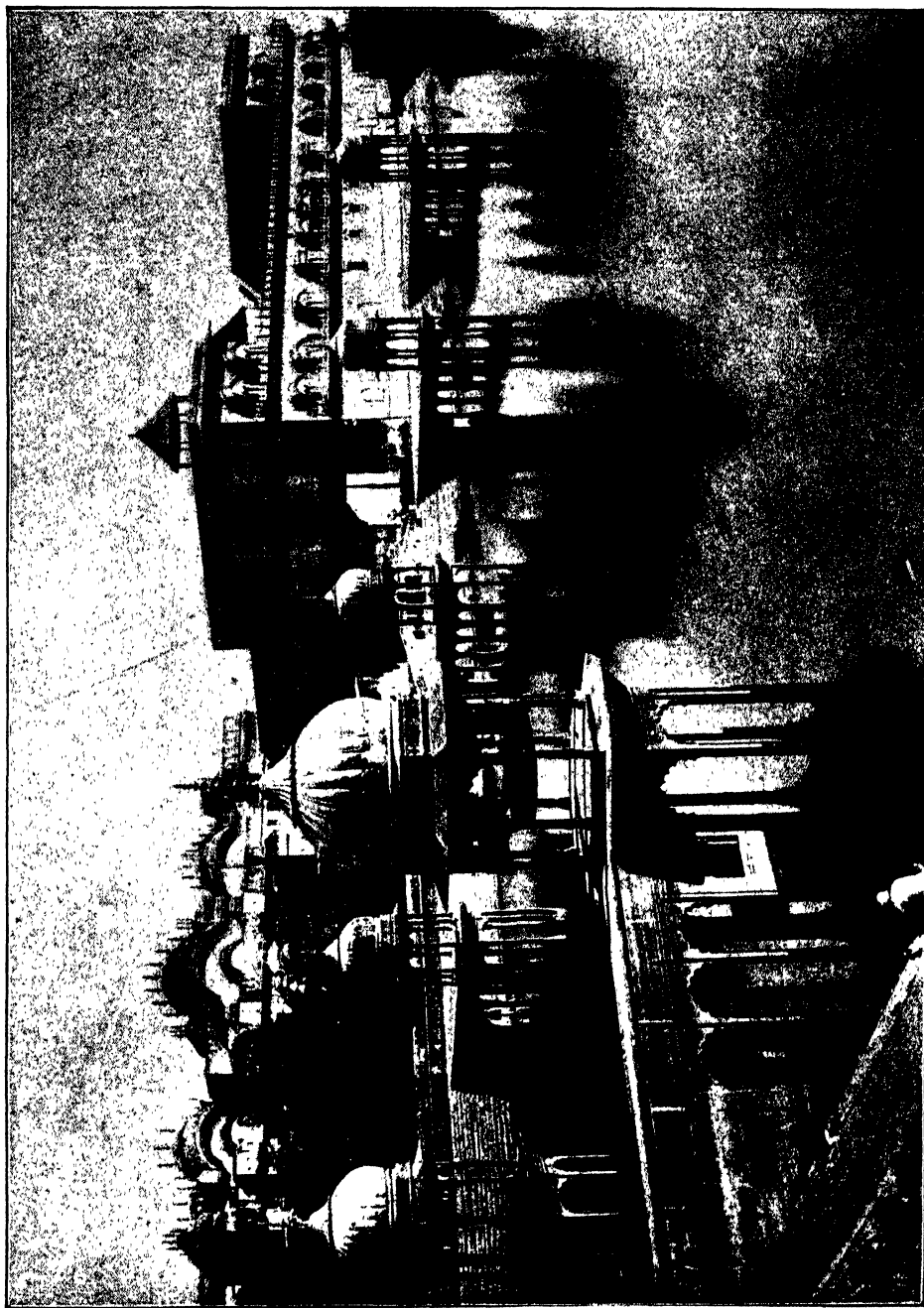


Ulwar—was, for insubordination, banished by Madhu Singh from Machery, with his two followers Khooshialiram and Nundram. He went to live at Bhurtpur, but when the skirmish occurred between Madhu Singh and the Gâts, he returned to Machery and offered his services as of old, to the Raja, and chiefly through his bravery and devotion the Gâts were conquered, and in return he was pardoned and re-installed as Chief of Machery. After Madhu Sing's death, his son and successor being a minor, the state was administered by the Queen Regent, and Khooshialiram was appointed joint-minister with Arut Ram, the former Dewan. The young prince died, and his half-brother, also a minor, succeeded him ; his mother still remaining Queen Regent, and Khooshialiram became her Prime Minister, and also received the title of Raja. His success did not make him forget his old master and friend, the Chief of Machery, who, by his advice, deserted the new Prince of Jeypore, and offered his assistance to Nuji Khan, the Mughal General, to expel the Gâts from Agra, in return for which service he received the title of Rao Raja, and a sanad authorising him to hold Machery direct from the Imperial Crown. In 1776 Pertab Singh succeeded in obtaining possession of the town and fort of Ulwar, and his brethren of the Naruka clan of Rajputs acknowledged him as their chief. He was succeeded by his adopted son, Bakhtawar Sing, during whose reign the Mahratta war of 1803 took place. Bakhtawar Sing allied himself with the British Government, and the battle of Laswari, at which Sindhia was defeated by Lord Lake, was fought within a few miles of Ulwar City. The British Government conferred upon the Rao Raja of Machery several districts, which raised his revenue from seven to ten lakhs. In the same year he entered into a treaty with the British Government, by which it was arranged that he should pay no tribute, but be bound to assist with his troops when

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required. This treaty was annulled, and a fresh one concluded in 1811, by which the Rao Raja was forbidden to enter into a political alliance with any other state. Continuous misunderstandings and disturbances took place, and Bakhtawar Sing did not keep to the terms of the treaty ; but was always endeavouring to increase his territory and to interfere with the peace and possessions of neighbouring chiefs. He left an illegitimate son called Balwant Sing, but was succeeded by his nephew, Bani Sing, and the British Government insisted upon the districts which they had given to the late Raja being made over to Balwant Sing. He, dying childless in 1845, these districts again became a part of the state. Bani Sing was a great ruler ; he beautified his capital, erected fine palaces and buildings, got together an extensive library, excavated the Lake of Silesedh, and devoted himself to making his state one of the foremost in Rajputana. He was succeeded by his young son, Sheodan Sing, during whose minority a political agent was appointed to assist the Council of Regency. When the young prince came of age he was found to be incapable of rightly controlling his subjects ; frequent disturbances took place, Ulwar was in a state of confusion and discontent, which resulted ultimately in an insurrection. So that again the interference of the British Government was called for, and in 1870 another Council of Regency was appointed, presided over by a British officer. Sheodan Sing only survived this new arrangement four years, and as he left no legitimate successor, the twelve Kotris or Naruka families were called upon to select from their midst a suitable ruler. They appointed Thakur Mangal Sing, of the Thanna family, the present ruler, as the Maharao Raja. The state is now a very important one ; the country is mostly rugged ; ranges of high hills stretch out for miles to the west and south-west, and they abound with large game, both

tigers and panthers being found in the hill jungles. The river Sabhi flows through the plains in the N.N.E. direction and joins the Jumna. The soil is sandy, but very productive. The inhabitants are Hindus and Mussulmans, the former predominating. The capital, also called Ulwar, is situated almost in the centre of the state, about eighty miles from Delhi, and is a beautiful town, most picturesquely situated at the base of a hilly range, protected on one side by a lofty rock, on which stands the fort, and on the other sides by a rampart and a moat; five gates lead into the city, which has a population of about 52,000. The streets are well paved and cleaned. One of the most noted buildings is the Temple of Jagannath, which stands in the market-place. An ancient tomb called Tirpolia, dating back to about 1350, is the burial place of Tarang Sultan, brother of Firoz Shah. The Banni Bilas Palace is a modern but very handsome building, with a fine Durbar hall, from the roof of which a beautiful view is obtained of the fort and hillside, the temples and tanks, and the tomb of Bakhtawar Sing, an exquisite structure in foliated arch style, and from the pavilion of which you can gaze on a scene to which only Sir Edwin Arnold's vivid word painting can do justice: "You look upon this bright landscape, full of old legend and busy traffic, from balconies of pierced marble—delicious little bowers of carved and fretted embroidery, where the satin polish of the stone, the cool, smooth floors, the light filtering through sheeny windows of close and complex patterns; the tinkle of fountains falling on the pavement, the breeze sighing through the feathers of the palm trees, and the broad flags of the banana make up a scene of luxury and graceful life which words cannot convey. . . . There is no dead king's spirit which might not be proud of such a tomb, and no artist, who would not confess it a perfect subject for his pencil, with the wild peacocks drop-



THE PALACE AT ULWAR, RIVER VIEW.  
(From a photo by Lala Ivern Dayal.)

ping their gorgeous trains down its white walls, and the water reflecting every line and angle of its noble contours." The Raja's palace is handsome and beautifully decorated, and the royal library contains a valuable collection of Sanscrit works; also magnificent Persian and Arabic manuscripts beautifully illustrated, illuminated, and bound, but the gem of all is a copy of the "Gulistan," valued at 500,000 rupees, which was purchased by Raja Bani Sing, and is in point of ornament unsurpassed by any book in Rajputana. There are also several quaint historical and mythological pictures of great interest. The Armoury owes its existence to that great monarch Raja Bani Sing, and here his armour is religiously preserved; there are also swords and knives with richly jewelled handles, and blades of finest steel, and shields of marvellous workmanship; two or three famous artisans, whose weapons are known far and wide, and who hold villages in lieu of pay, are employed by the state; they are not natives of Ulwar. The Tosha Khana Department buys and preserves state jewels, state dresses, and dresses of honour, and valuable curios of small bulk; also perfumes for the Durbar. The principal treasures are a diamond which cost half a lakh of rupees, a necklace of ropes of pearls, and a cup cut out of one large emerald.

The stables and kennels are splendidly kept up, the Maharaja being noted for his beautiful horses, which are the pick of the best English and Indian breeds. The fort stands 1,000 feet above the Tirpolia, and contains a palace and other buildings, erected chiefly by the two first Naruka Chiefs of Ulwar. The ramparts extend along the hills to a distance of two miles. The Residency is about one and a half miles out of the city. The Lake of Silisedh, situated nine miles south-west of the city, was excavated in 1844 by Raja Bani Sing; it is over a mile in length and 400 yards average width. A little steam

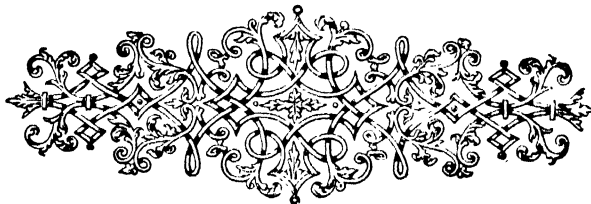
yacht for the Maharaja's use is kept on the lake, and a small palace stands on a rock above it. Another lake, called the Deoli, situated close to the Jeypore border, is famous as the resort of innumerable wild fowl; it is also infested with water snakes, which makes the little palace that stands in its midst uninhabitable. A section of the Rajputana railroad, connecting Delhi with Ulwar, was opened in 1874; the line runs from north to south, dividing the territory almost exactly in half; there are six stations in the state. The principal places of interest outside the city are: Tyarah, the old capital of Mewat, thirty miles from Ulwar, with a population of 7,000, Tyarah hills being famous as the strongholds of ancient chiefs. The village of Masit has a fine old mosque, built by the Pathans; it is over 800 years old. Rajgarth, with its famous Jain temples and a palace in the fort, and here also is the wealthy monastery of Dadupanthis. There are several places in the state where beautiful marble is obtained, such as Jherri in the S.W., where the finest white statuary marble is excavated. Pink marble is found both at Jherri and Raiwala and at Baldeogarh; it is dug out in fine pieces large enough for life-size figures. Maharao Raja was not related to the late Maharao Raja, but, as before stated, was selected by the twelve Kotris as their ruler; he is a Naruka Rajput of the Thanna family, and now thirty-two years of age. How well His Highness has fulfilled the expectations of those who placed him upon the Gaddi will be seen by the following account, which appeared in the "Statement Exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India," during the years 1888 and 1889: "The Chief of Ulwar, in recognition of the excellence of his government, received from the Government of India the hereditary title of 'Maharaja'; he is also the first Ruler of Ulwar who has received the 'Star of India.' The Maharaja married a daughter of the

Chief of Kishingarh. The principal works which have been carried on during his reign are the construction of roads, public offices, and buildings in various towns, and the capital, which also has a very fine courthouse. The streets present a busy sight, and the Bazaars are full of the usual lovely specimens of Indian work, also of the special art for which the country is famous—gold and silver chased work. The inhabitants are tall and well-proportioned, the women very handsome in their robes of rich crimson and yellow, and their saris rich with embroidery and glittering with the round bits of looking-glass let into the material. When the Maharaja goes out in state he has the *Mahi Maralib*, or famous fish insignia, presented by the Emperor of Delhi to the first Chief of Ulwar, carried before him; also the images of “Sita Rama”; and he is accompanied by a person supporting a gilded umbrella, persons carrying pankhas representing the sun and moon, by mace-bearers, *morchal* or peacock-plume bearers, *chowie* or yak-tail bearers, men carrying curious spears, carriers of silver tiger-headed clubs, runners carrying clubs, and ordinary spearmen. His Highness, when he goes to the feast of Dasara, uses a magnificent carriage two stories high, drawn by four elephants; it will hold fifty people, and is elaborately gilded and decorated. Among the Court amusements are hunting, wrestling matches, and singers and dancers are maintained at a great expense; the official who has charge of this department is styled Dewan, and has a seat in the Durbar. Another strange post is that of “taster”; he is called “Chakhu,” and his duty is to taste every dish before it is served, for fear they should be poisoned. The Maharaja maintains an army of 2,000 cavalry, 5,500 infantry, and 300 artillerymen. The Ulwar cavalry are considered the best mounted troops in India. The state can boast of 100 schools for

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boys, and 17 for girls. His Highness also offered to defray the cost of educating students at the Agra Medical School; and when the Jubilee Fund was organised by the Countess of Dufferin, the Maharaja of Ulwar contributed the handsome sum of 50,000 rupees. There is not an appeal, either for funds or personal co-operation, brought before him, which has for its object the good of his state or people, that is not responded to with the greatest alacrity and pleasure. His Highness has a most generous heart, ample means for carrying out his noble impulses combined with shrewd common-sense, which enables him to select proper channels and objects upon which to bestow his bounty. He is also thoroughly loyal.

His Highness the Maharaja Sawai Sir Mangal Singh died very suddenly on the 22nd of May (1892) while staying at one of his hill palaces, and his body was conveyed to Ulwar city and there cremated with the usual ceremonies. His successor, His Highness Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh Bahadur, is only 10 years of age, so the State of Ulwar is now governed by a Council of Regency.







HIS HIGHNESS BRAJINDRA SAWAI SIR JASWANT SINGH BAHADUR JANG, G.C.S.I.,  
MAHARAJA OF BHARTPUR.

*Bourne & Shepherd.*

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## BHARTPUR.

HIS HIGHNESS BRAJINDRA SAWAI SIR JASWANT SINGH BAHADUR JANG, G.C.S.I.,  
MAHARAJA OF BHARTPUR.



THE native state of Bhartpur—which is under the political superintendence of the Rajputana Agency and the Government of India—is about seventy-seven miles in length, measured from north to south, and fifty miles in breadth. Its area is 1,974 square miles, with 1,359 towns and villages inhabited by Hindus and Muhammadans numbering 743,710. The revenue is £280,000. The principal rivers are the Utanghan, Gambhir, Kakand, and Ruparel, but none of them are navigable; the country on the whole is flat, and not particularly interesting, except from an antiquarian point of view, for it is rich in ruins of many palaces and fine temples, all historically noteworthy. It is also worthy of notice as being the only Jāt state of any importance in the whole of India.

The Jāt is one of the “thirty-six royal races,” and its ancient history endows it with immense greatness and power from the time of Cyrus to the fourteenth century, when, according to Tod, it was “converted from idolatry to the faith of Islam.” He also states that “Herodotus informs us that the Getes (or Jāts) were theists, and held the tenet of the soul’s immortality; that De Guignes, from Chinese authorities, asserts that at a very early period they had embraced the religion of Fo, or Boodha.”

The Jât, which was the old name of the Scythic invaders of India, settled in the Punjaub about the fifth century, and in Rajputana about one hundred years later. There is, however, no absolutely reliable history of this race until 1026, when they attacked Mahmoud of Ghazni as he was returning from his expedition against Guzerat. In 1397 Tamerlane killed a horde of them on his march to Delhi; and again we hear of them in 1826 attacking Baba's army, and later, when the Mughal power was at its greatest height, their marauding habits and quarrelsome natures brought them into continuous trouble with the Imperial power.

After the death of Aurangzeb, the Jât chief Churanam, with his followers, settled in villages, fortifying them, and cultivating the land. His brother, Badan Sing, usurped the power, and was installed as Raja at Dig. The next chief, Suraj Mall, extended the territory until it became a state of some little note, with two forts, one at Dig and the other at Khambar. In 1760 Suraj Mall, with 30,000 followers, joined the Mahratta in their attack upon Ahmad Shah Durani, but, failing to agree with the Mahratta leader, withdrew, and by stratagem gained possession of Agra, where he was killed in 1763, leaving five sons. Ranjit Sing, the fourth son, rebelled against his brother, and gained possession of the fortress of Bhartpur, which, with all the surrounding country, was seized by Sindhia; but eleven districts were returned by him to Ranjit Sing, which with three more awarded for services rendered to General Perron, form the present state of Bhartpur. Ranjit Sing's history is an interesting one; he was almost the first chieftain who entered into an alliance with the British Government, and rendered great service to Lord Lake in the Mahratta war of 1803, for which five districts were assigned to him. In the contest between Holkar and the British, Ranjit Sing took the part

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of the former, and opened fire from the ramparts of Dig upon the British, who were in pursuit of Holkar's routed troops. Lord Lake, indignant at Ranjit Singh's treachery, attacked Dig, and carried it by assault, and then laid siege to Bhartpur, which was strongly fortified; indeed, a high wall eight miles in circumference, with a broad moat, effectually resisted all attacks. The British army was four times repulsed with great slaughter, and Ranjit Singh, although victorious, fearing another attack, made overtures for peace, which were accepted conditionally upon his surrendering the fort, driving Holkar out of his territory, and ceding the five districts conferred upon him in 1803, together with an indemnity of £200,000. Ranjit Singh, who accepted these somewhat hard terms, died the same year (1805), leaving five sons, the eldest of whom, Randhir Singh, succeeded his father, and enjoyed a long and fairly prosperous reign of eighteen years; his brother, Baldu Singh, who followed him, only lived for eighteen months. The next heir was Balwant Singh, but before he could be established in power his cousin, Dugan Sal, a grandson of Ranjit Singh, seized Bhartpur and imprisoned the infant heir; upon hearing which, Lord Combermere, at the head of 25,000 men, was despatched against the city; but, as in the attack by Lord Lake, the strong walls stood against every assault for a whole month, and only by mining was a breach effected, and the fortress taken. Dugan Sal was taken prisoner, and the rightful heir placed in power, his mother acting as Regent under the advice and superintendence of a political agent. In 1835 the young Raja Balwant Singh was invested with full power. The late Maharaja governed well, and several important public works were carried on during his reign. He died in 1853, leaving an only son, His Highness Brajindia Sawai Sir Jaswant Singh, G.C.S.I., the present Maharaja, who at the time of his father's death was a minor, so the state was

administered by a political agent and a council of seven Sairdárs. His Highness, who is now forty years of age, was invested with full power when he attained his twentieth year. The state, which pays no tribute nor any contribution towards a local contingent, coins its own money, and has kept pace with the most progressive states as regards educational advantages offered in the capital, where there is a large college, in which English, Persian, Sanscrit, and Arabic are taught.

The military force of the state consists of 1,500 cavalry, 8,500 infantry, and 250 artillery, and several cannon, which, however, are almost useless except for salutes. The capital—also called Bhartpur—a fine city, with about 60,000 inhabitants, is situated on the high road between Agra and Ajmere, and derives its name from Bharat, a legendary character in the Hindu mythology. A high wall and moat surround the city, and the fort and ramparts were built by Budan Singh in 1733. There are an interesting old turreted palace and a modern one within the fort, furnished in European style, its principal feature is a beautiful stone staircase; there are several temples, a very large hospital, jail, fort, and telegraph office. The streets are wide and clean, and the people look contented and happy. Bhartpur is famous for its *chauris*, or fly whisks, made of the finest strips of sandal wood, and with delicately carved handles; but many other pretty things may be purchased in the bazaars.

The principal places of interest in the state are: Dig, a town situated in the midst of marshes, and, during a great part of the year, almost entirely surrounded by water. It has about 15,000 inhabitants, and besides being a place of great antiquity, is noted for its beautiful palaces, erected by Suraj Mall, the founder of the Bhartpur dynasty, about 1730. There is no building to equal it in "elegance of design

and perfection of workmanship," except the Taj Mahal at Agra. It is of the Mughal style of architecture. Pavilion after pavilion, with lofty marble halls and inlaid floors, surround a huge square laid out in mosaic flower-beds and with many fountains. The palace stands in a beautiful garden, planted with fine trees of all kinds, through which gay-plumaged birds flit and chirp unceasingly, sometimes with rapid wing skimming the surface of the numerous lakes, whose silvery waters reflect their vivid colouring like mirrors. The citadel, which stands on a lofty rock called the Shah Boorj, and covers nearly twenty acres of ground, was built by Budan Singh. Kaman is a town that once belonged to Jeypore, but was ceded to Maharaja Ranjit Singh by General Perron in 1782. The city is regarded as sacred, from having been once the residence of Krishna. Khamban, a small town of 7,000 inhabitants, situated about nine miles from the capital, and founded by one of the chiefs of Jeypore, is surrounded by a mud wall and ditch, and the fort is built on a low hill. The old palace is a picturesque building, erected by Raja Budan Singh, and although it has many interesting features, the number of bats which have made it their home render a prolonged stay impossible. Another little town called Rupas, founded by Rup Singh, has a beautiful palace in the Mughal style still fairly well preserved, and several colossal images of Buddhist and Jain divinity. Bayana has many ruins, and a fort which was formerly considered one of the principal strongholds of India; it is also almost a second Mecca, having been the burial place of many Muhammadan notabilities during its siege and seizure by Sayyid Salar Mas-sand, the nephew of the famous Mahmud of Ghazin in 1004.

The burial place of the Royal Family of Bhurtpur is at Goverdham, which now belongs to the British. Here is the beautiful cenotaph of



THE FORT SURROUNDED BY CANAL, BHARTPUR.  
(From a photograph by Lala Deen Dayal.)

Suraj Mall, which faces a lovely sheet of water, from which wide flights of steps lead into handsome terraces. A religious fair is held yearly in the town of Goverdham.

Bhartpur is thoroughly well governed, and the Maharaja, who is an enlightened and cultured gentleman, is also most hospitable to strangers. His Highness, who, like most of his subjects, is of the Jat tribe, contributes liberally towards all charitable and educational movements, and takes great interest in the scheme for providing medical aid to the women of India.







HIS HIGHNESS SHIVAJI RAO HOLKAR, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF INDORE.

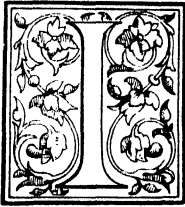
*(By Watery.)*

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## CENTRAL INDIA.

### INDORE.

HIS HIGHNESS SHIVAJI RAO HOLKAR, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF INDORE.



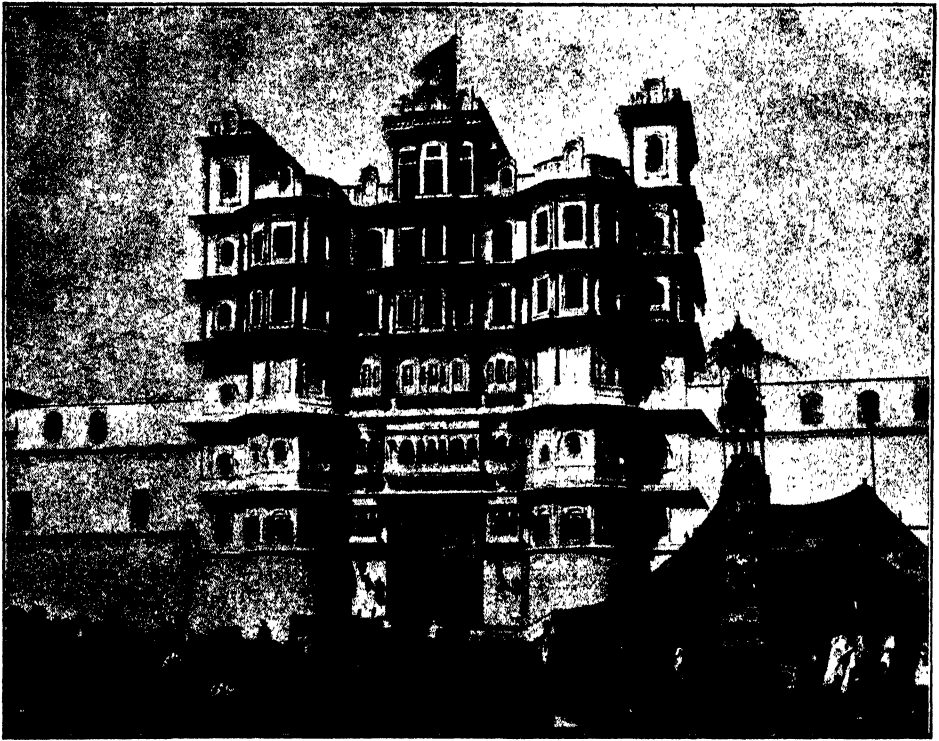
It seems strange to English ideas to hear of kings taken from among the peasant class, and placed upon the throne of rich states without any preparation or suitable training ; to read of a country without an aristocracy, of the peculiar relationship existing between a Sovereign and his servants, of a Court composed of proud Deckanni, Brahmins, and humble ryots, who have risen from the lowest positions. Such is, however, the history of several of the native states, and among them Indore, the founder of the princely house of Holkar having been only a simple goatherd, and his relations poor peasants, working in the fields for their daily bread.

Indore is one of the principal native states in Malwa, or Central India ; it is in political relationship with the Indore Presidency, under the Central India Agency and the Government of India. It covers an area of 8,400 square miles, has a population (according to the census of 1881) of 1,055,237, and a revenue of about £800,000. At one time the state consisted of many isolated tracts, but within the last twenty years lands have been advantageously exchanged, and the territory concentrated. The northern portion is watered by the Chambal, and the southern by the Nerbudda. The soil is very rich, and particularly

adapted to the cultivation of cotton, and also the poppy plant, which is universally grown, and forms an important part of the revenue. The Vindhyan Hills, which divide the southern portion of the state, are covered with valuable trees, teak being especially plentiful. The population is composed principally of Mahrattas, with a few Hindus and Muhammadans ; while the mountains of Vindhya and Satpura are the homes of the wild Bhils, whose fierceness and predatory habits at one time gave great trouble to the Government, but now their warlike natures have become much more subdued, and as soldiers and police they are found of great service.

The principal industries are cotton spinning and the manufacture of opium, which latter is largely exported, the British Government receiving £70 on every chest of 137lbs. The founder of the dynasty was Malhar Rao, a goatherd, born in 1693 in the village of Hol, in the Deccan, from which the Royal Family derives its name, the "kar" signifying inhabitant. Malhar Rao was a Mahratta, and at an early age took military service under a Mahratta noble, in which position he gained distinction, and in 1724 became the commander of 500 horse in the service of the Peshwa, to whom he gave so much satisfaction that he was presented with large tracts of land, the foundation of the present state, and eight years later he became a general in the Peshwa's army, and, conquering the army of the Mughal Viceroy of Malwa, gained the greatest part of the country for himself, and after that was made commander of the Mahratta's forces. Year by year he gained additional districts and added to his influence, until he was recognised as one of the foremost chiefs of India. His life was one of toil and turmoil, but he was, for those days, a good man, a skilful general, and a great statesman. He died at the age of seventy-six possessed of great

wealth, the revenue from his principality being three-quarters of a million sterling. He was succeeded by his grandson, Mali Rao, who only lived nine months after his accession, and upon his death the administration was assumed by his mother, Ahalya Bai, one of the cleverest and most remarkable women of her day, assisted by her



ENTRANCE GATE OF MAHARAJA HOLKAR PALACE, INDORE.

(By Lalit Deen Dayal.)

commander-in-chief, Tukaji Rao, a man who had distinguished himself as a soldier, and gained the respect of those under whom he served. Ahalya Bai devoted herself with unceasing toil to the duties of the Government. Every day for six years she personally transacted

public business, rose at daybreak, attended to her devotions, and fed the poor before she breakfasted. Her diet was of the simplest kind, and she never touched animal food ; her day was divided between the business of her state, religious duties, and works of charity. Sir John Malcolm gives the following enthusiastic description of her : " It is an extraordinary picture, a female without vanity, a bigot without intolerance, a mind imbued with the deepest superstition, yet receiving no impressions except what promoted the happiness of those under its influence, a being exercising in the most active and able manner despotic power, not merely with sincere humility, but under the severest moral restraint that a strict conscience could impose on human action, and all this combined with the greatest indulgence for the weakness and thoughts of others. In the most sober view that can be taken of her character, she certainly appears, within her limited sphere, to have been one of the purest and most exemplary rulers that ever existed." A glorious record to leave behind ! and the history of India brings before us many striking pictures of what women are capable of doing, in spite of the disadvantages and restraints under which they labour ; and there is every reason to believe that in the present day they are in every way worthy of the traditions of their sex. Ahalya Bai died at the age of sixty, after a most prosperous reign of thirty years. Tukaji Rao did not long survive her, and after his death the state was racked with dissensions and quarrels as to the succession, which were ultimately settled by Tukaji's son, Jaswant Rao, assuming the management of affairs. His army was reorganised by European officers, and he succeeded in defeating the armies of Sindia and the Peshwa ; but his good fortune was not of long continuance. He became insane, and died in 1811, and the state was again governed by a woman, Tulsi Bai.

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during the minority of Tukaji Rao's son Malhar Rao. But she was murdered, and Malhar Rao's reign was an unfortunate one; he was defeated, and lost much territory, and died at the early age of twenty-eight, leaving no children; and by the time that the late Maharaja Tukaji Rao came to the throne in 1844, the state had passed through many changes, and seen many rulers, who did all in their power to destroy the good that Ahalya Bai had done. Indore was in a state of continuous anarchy; there was no security for life or property. But a change was at hand, for during the minority of the Maharaja, the state was governed by a regency acting under the superintendence of the British Resident. Efficient instructors were provided for the young prince, and peace restored to the country, and order was once more established everywhere. The education of the Maharaja was successfully carried on, and he showed a keen aptitude for business and great administrative ability. His views were enlarged by a tour through Hindostan, when he visited all the places of interest, and studied the life and habits of the inhabitants of the different towns and villages. On his return to his capital he was invested with full power, and the sole management of the state. He quickly proved himself fitted for his position. He was the best man of business among all the native princes, always accessible to his subjects, and although—like his ancestors—raised from an obscure position, he ruled with wisdom and discretion; he was industrious and simple in his habits, but possessed of all the attributes necessary to make a good ruler; he greatly increased the revenue, and spent much money upon improving the country and the condition of his subjects. During the Mutiny, the state troops rose against the British, and the Resident, with the English ladies and children, were compelled to flee to Bhopal, but it occurred

through no fault of the Maharaja, who remained loyal to the British, and soon afterwards reduced his rebellious troops to submission.

It may be interesting to devote a few lines to an explanation of the position in which Indore stands with the British Government. According to the treaty entered into on the 6th of January, 1818, and the conditions of which are still adhered to, "The British undertake to protect the state; to mediate in case of differences with other states; and to place at Indore an accredited political agent. The Maharaja Holkar on his part engages to abstain from direct communication with other states; to limit his military establishments; to engage no Europeans or Americans in his service without the consent of the British Government; and to afford every facility towards the purchase and transport of supplies for the auxiliary force, to be maintained for his protection." Maharaja Tukaji Rao died in 1886, after a reign of forty-two years, and was succeeded by his son, His Highness Shivaji Rao Holkar, who, on July 4th, 1886, was placed upon the gadi after the manner of the Mahrattas. The ceremony, which always precedes the official installation, was thus described in one of the Indian newspapers: "At twelve noon the installation took place; but long before then all business was suspended throughout the city. The streets, and every house, too, were decorated according to the means of the residents, and while the men crowded into the immense palace-yard, and the approaches to the palace, to catch even a glimpse of their new chief, the women, dressed in the gayest of holiday attire, thronged the streets to talk the event over. The ceremonies in connection with the installation commenced with a religious service, and the new Chief and members of his family were for some time engaged in *Poojah*. From the family temple the Prince was conducted by the male members of his

family, and the priests who had officiated in the preliminary ceremony, to the chief Durbar Hall of the palace, which opens on to spacious yards; the hall and yards were packed, and as he emerged from a side room, the whole crowd stood up, and the people sent up a joyous shout. At the entrance to the hall the Maharaja was received by the



RIVER VIEW, BATHING GHÂT AND TEMPLE, INDORE.

(Lala Deen Dayal.)

Hereditary Grand Dewan of the state and the chief nobles of the Raj, who conducted him to a place in front of the gadi. Here there was pa ause for about an hour; the Maharaja repeated some sacred passages, and then he was taken five times round the seat, on which he was placed by the Hereditary Grand Dewan after the fifth round was completed.



This was a signal for the people in the hall to approach and sprinkle the Maharaja with natural flowers and small gold flowers. Cocoanuts were then offered by the Brahmins, and nuzzars (presents) by all others ; this closed the installation ceremony." On July 12th the official ceremony took place in the new Durbar Hall in the palace. Besides Sir Lepel Griffin, the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India, and General Gillespie, commanding the Mhow division, there were present sixty European gentlemen, the principal Sirdars and officials of the state, and deputations from the Central India Association of Mhow, and from the Deccan Education Society, Poona. A guard of honour, consisting of two companies of the 4th Regiment, was stationed in the open quadrangle in front of the hall with their band. In front of the palace, on the road by which Sir Lepel Griffin, who may well be termed the Indian King-maker, was to pass, triumphal arches were erected with suitable mottoes in gold letters. Sir Lepel Griffin was received by the Maharaja at the entrance of the hall, and then both of them took their seats on gold chairs in the centre. Then the Khareeta from the Viceroy was read, and Sir Lepel Griffin addressed the Maharaja upon the duties which awaited him, etc., and afterwards a khillut from the Viceroy, consisting of a dress of honour, necklace, arms, elephant, and other valuable presents, worth in all 25,000 rupees, was presented to His Highness ; Sir Lepel Griffin himself placed the necklace round the Maharaja's neck, and a salute of guns announced the event to the outside public. His Highness was then twenty-six years of age, and next to the Gaekwar of Baroda, the best educated prince in India. When a boy he attended the Indian High School, and completed his education at the Rajkumar College, under the late Mr. Aberigh-Mackay, through whose efficient teaching he

became a good English scholar. He is also an ardent and successful sportsman."

The Maharaja began well by abolishing the oppressive Biaj tax of 12 per cent. on the salaries of all the servants of the Indore State, however poor, and two other taxes affecting cultivators were also swept away ; vigorous action, too, was taken against the Dacoits, which served to check crime. A great deal of waste land has been brought under cultivation, and measures adopted for improving the condition of the people. There are ninety-two schools in the state, with an attendance of 5,236 boys and ninety-three girls.

The Residency (Rajkumar) College, established for the education of the sons of the chiefs and gentry of Central India, has on its roll upwards of 200 boys. The Maharaja's College, for the education of Deccani Brahmins, is also well attended ; in addition to these there are a Law school and a Sanskrit school, established in 1875. Altogether the state expends over £3,500 per annum upon education alone.

The Holkar State Railway now runs from Khandwa Junction through Mhow to Indore city, a distance of over eighty-five miles ; and another line connects Indore with Nuseerabad, Delhi, and Agra, running through a part of Scindia's territory ; this line is called the Holkar and Nimach State Railway. There is a beautiful bridge over the Nerbudda, with fourteen spans of 200 feet wrought-iron girders ; this bridge was opened in 1876.

The military force of the state is—Infantry, regular, 3,100 ; irregular, 2,150. Cavalry, regular, 3,100 ; irregular, 1,200 ; 340 artillerymen, and 24 field guns.

Indore City is large and prosperous, with a population of about

75,000, and the palace—which is visible from all parts of it—is a fine structure, with a magnificent, many-storied gateway. The Residency is a handsome building, standing in its own park, and with lovely gardens. The river Kahan runs through the city, and the streets are wide and well lighted. On the banks of the river is the Lal Bagh, a beautiful garden containing the Maharaja's summer palace. Other public buildings are the High School, Leper Asylum, Market-place, Dispensary, and Arsenal. In the suburbs there is an antelope preserve, where fine sport is obtained with the hunting leopard. Tigers are still sometimes shot close to the city gates.

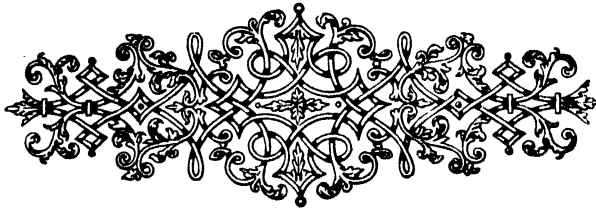
His Highness Maharaja Holkar has the right of coining the currency of his own state, and the process is a very simple one. The mint is in an ordinary dwelling-house, and contains no machinery whatever, and all the various processes of coining are carried on by hand. In 1887 the Maharaja visited England, to take part in the Jubilee ceremonies; but he was not altogether pleased with his reception, the gaieties of Paris affording him far more pleasure than the stately functions which wearied him in England. Since His Highness' return to Indore, matters have not gone on very smoothly, nor has he quite carried out the promises made nor the expectations entertained of him when he came to the throne. He is a fiery and headstrong man, variable, easily influenced for evil, and superstitious; his domestic life has been embittered with quarrels between the ladies of his household. Still, there is a certain progress in state affairs, and it is hoped that the Maharaja will yet redress the evils that exist, and fill with honour the position which he holds, so that the Indore state may show as much progress and enjoy as much prosperity and peace as do the other native states which are ruled over by young princes educated in the

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European method, who have travelled and seen the results of civilisation in other countries.

The late Maharaja was created a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India and a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire, and was entitled to a salute of nineteen guns in British territory, and a salute of twenty-one guns in his own territory ; but His Highness the present Maharaja Holkar enjoys a salute of twenty-one guns in British territory also, and has been made a Councillor of the Empress.

His Highness is very wealthy, and has magnificent jewels, the most valuable being chains of exquisite and matchless emeralds.





HIIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SCINDIA.  
*Lent by Sir Lepel Griffin, K.C.S.I.*

## GWALIOR.

HIS HIGHNESS MADHOJI RAO, MAHARAJA SCINDIA.



IN the month of July, 1886, a curious scene was enacted in the Moti Mahal, or Pearl Palace, in Gwalior. It was the placing of a little boy of eight years, son and heir of the late Maharaja Scindia, upon the throne of one of the most important states in the whole of India.

It was a very hot day, the sun shone brilliantly as if to give additional honour to the imposing and touching ceremony about to take place. The whole of Scindia's troops were drawn up in front of the palace. The grand Durbar Hall was decorated with truly regal magnificence; here were assembled the nobles of the state in their gay costumes and many jewels; their attendants equally gorgeous, and the officials in handsome uniforms. At five o'clock the booming of the guns from the old historic fortress—the first time for Scindia's guns to be fired there for twenty-eight years—and the music of the military bands announced the arrival of the principal actors in the scene. Preceded by a procession of heralds and followed by the state officers, came Sir Lepel Griffin, K.C.S.I., in full uniform, leading the little Prince by the hand, and having on either side Colonel Bannerman (Resident), Mr. Petre, and Major Kingscote. The young Maharaja, a charming little fellow, was magnificently dressed in rich brocaded yellow silk, sewn with diamonds; a splendid diamond aigrette glittering on his forehead, and carrying under his arm a miniature general's sword. During the ceremony he

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was not seated, as was customary, on a State chair, but was placed on Sir Lepel Griffin's knee, which was intended to signify that he and his possessions were confided to the Agent's care. Sir Lepel Griffin, at the close of the installation ceremony, placed round the young King's neck a beautiful necklace of pearls, and seated him on the gadi; Atter and Pan were presented to him by the British officials and Sirdars. Salutes were again fired, the bands played the National Anthem, and the Durbar was ended.

A new ruler was made, and with all honours placed on the throne of his ancestors. Before proceeding further it will be well to learn a little about the past history of this important native state, which is in political relationship with the Central India Agency, and the Government of India, and whose area comprises 33,119 square miles, in the province of Agra and the greatest part of Malwa. A part of the state is hilly and unproductive, but by far the larger division is rendered fruitful by the many streams which flow gently through it. Opium is abundantly produced, as are also all kinds of grain, tobacco, sugar-cane, indigo, etc. The reigning family are Mahrattas, a race formed of hardy villagers and outlaws, who without murmuring could stand any fatigue. They were not inspired by religious feelings, nor a love of their country; with them "the end justified the means," and they were formidable and merciless enemies, who gained more victories by stratagem than by honest warfare. Their first chief was Sivaji, of the royal family of Udaipur, the foremost Rajput family in India. During his youth he was distinguished as an expert bowman and a skilful rider, and excelled in all manly sports. He soon gathered round him a brave little band of followers, by whose help he conquered and became master of large districts; he offered his services to the Mughal Emperor, Shah Jahán,

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and in 1664 proclaimed himself Raja, fixed on Rajgurh as his capital, and provided himself with a fleet of eighty-six ships, which enabled him to plunder on sea as he had hitherto done on land ; till finally arousing the jealousy of Aurangzeb he was invited to Delhi, and with his son Sambaji was retained as prisoner. But he succeeded in escaping, and, returning to Rajgurh, he recovered all his forts which had been taken by Aurangzeb. He died in 1680, at the age of fifty-three, of over-work and anxiety caused by his disloyal son Sambaji. He was a great and valiant soldier, and a "consummate statesman" of indomitable will and wise judgment, yet treacherous and unscrupulous, stooping to any crime or meanness in order to attain his ends. He might justly be called the Napoleon of India, born to lead and command. His son Sambaji, the second King of the Mahrattas, was cruelly murdered in 1689 by the Emperor Aurangzeb, who hoped by this means to put an end to the Mahratta kingdom. The Queen and her infant son Sivaji II. became the prisoners of Aurangzeb, but were kindly treated, and the young Prince was married to the daughter of a Mahratta of high rank and became known as Shahu. On the death of the Emperor he was set at liberty, and returned to his subjects, who received him with open arms, and in March, 1708, he assumed the title of King of the Mahrattas at Satara. Prosperity, and Oriental luxury were his ruin, and he gradually lost the confidence and respect of his subjects, and but for the ability of the first Peshwa or Prime Minister, a clever Brahmin called Balaji Veshwanath, the Mahratta power would speedily have declined. The Peshwa took the part of Hassar Ali, who had been made Subadar of the Deccan by the Mughal Emperor, but not satisfied with a subordinate position he determined to become an independent monarch, and in 1717 succeeded in his design. The Mahrattas, for the help afforded on this



occasion, were given the right of collecting the fourth part of the revenue of the whole of the Deccan. The Peshwa died in 1721 and was succeeded by his son Baji Rao, a most able and clever man, who advised his master Shahu to wipe out the decaying Mughal power, and to restore the Hindu faith to India. At this period the principal Mahratta officers were Scindia, Holkar, Bhonslay, and the Gaekwar, all of whom ultimately became the founders of independent kingdoms. The Peshwa enlarged his territories with districts taken from the Nizam and the Emperor of Delhi, and Malwa and the lands between the Nerbudda and the Chambal were granted him; and, as the Imperial power declined, the whole province of the Deccan was shared between the Nizam and the Mahratta. This noble warrior and statesman died in 1740, his whole career being one of unexampled brilliancy. His officers, inspired by his wonderful organising and governing powers, became the founders of states that for the last two centuries have withstood all enemies and are at the present time among the best governed kingdoms in the whole of India.

The founder of the Gwalior royal family was Ranoji Scindia, a Sudra of the tribe of Kumbi or cultivators, who in 1795 was slipper-bearer to the Peshwa of Poona, which latter Prince, pleased with his fidelity, speedily raised him to a high position and made him one of the chief officers of the state. But little is known of Ranoji's life; he died at Shingahalpore in 1749 or 1750, leaving two legitimate and two illegitimate sons, who all came into a splendid inheritance. The heir, Jayapa, was killed by an assassin, and Ranoji's second son, Dalkaji, became ruler, but he also was slain in battle; the third son, Tukaji, had died before his father, so no legitimate successor was left of the family of Scindia, whereupon Mahadaji Ranoji's illegitimate son succeeded to power, in



THE YOUNG MAHARAJA AND HIS OFFICIAL GUARDIAN, SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN, K.C.S.J., AND COURT.

spite of the stain on his birth. Mahadaji's career was a successful and glorious one ; he rapidly extended his dominions till he and Ahalya Bai ruled over the whole of Malwa—Mahadaji's capital being Gwalior, while Ahalya Bai governed at Indore. No finer or more daring general than Mahadaji ever lived ; indeed, he gave the English a great deal of trouble, but in 1780 entered into a treaty with them, after which there was temporary peace. His next step was to pose as the champion and protector of the Emperor. The command of the Imperial army, as well as the government of the provinces of Delhi and Agra, were intrusted to him. His career was one series of triumphs, and his fame spread all over India. He was regarded with reverence, and his sway was absolute. His next step was to demand tribute from the British, which brought upon him a smart rebuff ; a second check also came from Jeypore, where Scindia's forces were entirely routed ; his power now began to decline, but was again firmly re-established in Delhi. Scindia had many enemies who, jealous of his success, thwarted all his plans, and the Rajputs and Sikhs were continually harassing him, but he conquered them all. In the zenith of his glory he caught a virulent fever which caused his death in February, 1794, and was succeeded by Daulet Rao, his brother's grandson. The young Prince was only fifteen years of age when he was called to rule this great state ; his reign was troublous, and negotiations were entered into by the British, but in vain, to form a treaty with Scindia, whose refusal was the signal for Lord Wellesley to take most unwarrantable and hostile measures. Scindia made various amicable proposals, which were rudely rejected. The disastrous war which followed was caused not by any breach of faith on Scindia's part, but by the greed and ambition of the Governor-General—whose actions on this occasion cannot easily be defended. Delhi was

taken, and the poor blind Emperor, Shah Alum, who was eighty years of age, was promised the protection of the British Government and every respect and attention for himself and family that his rank commanded. He relied on these promises, and gladly welcomed the English, only to find that the promises made him were disregarded, and instead of an honoured guest, he became a miserable prisoner. Fort after fort fell into the hands of the English, and at last Scindia was compelled to purchase peace at the sacrifice of the best part of his territory. The British by the second Mahratta war and the slaughter of thousands of innocent people, completely destroyed the French power and gained many rich districts, and, according to General Wellesley's report on the war, "The increased renown of the British nation, both for power and virtue." Poor Scindia was heart-broken when he found that he had also to give up Gohud, which had been granted him by the Mughal Emperor, and Gwalior from which the family derived its title. That he would have to cede these two places had never been made clear to him until the treaty was signed, and he could not draw back, so the Governor-General—not by the might of right, but by the might of strength—deprived the Maharaja of these as well as of other private properties. The Marquis of Cornwallis on his arrival in India endeavoured to have Gohud and Gwalior restored to the Maharaja, but died before his wise policy was carried out. A treaty was concluded and signed in 1805, and the fort and Gohud restored to him, but the British retained the fort of Asseergurh. The Mahratta power, indeed, now was at an end, and the Peshwa was a prisoner. Daulet Rao Scindia's eventful life came to a close in 1827, at the early age of forty-eight. Until the second Mahratta war he had been the most powerful monarch in India, and the friend and adviser of the Emperor. He died without issue, and was

succeeded by a boy eleven years of age, Mugat Rao, who was adopted by the widow Baiza Bai, who herself became Regent. She was an ambitious, wicked woman, and so cruelly treated the young Prince, that he ran away from the palace and took refuge with the President. He was persuaded to return, but a few months later again quitted the palace, and Baiza Bai's subjects rebelled against her authority, and she was compelled to leave Gwalior, and the young Maharaja was acknowledged by the British Government and took the title of Ali Jah Jankoji Rao Scindia. He was a weak and incapable Prince, and his state was in a continuous state of turmoil and anarchy. He died, leaving no children, so his child-widow (twelve years of age), Tara Bigh, with the consent of the nobles and the British Government adopted a distant relative, a boy of eight, who was installed on the gadi with the title of Maharaja Alija Jayaji Rao Scindia, and the Prime Minister of the late ruler was elected Regent. The youth of the Maharaja, and weakness of his adopted mother, gave rise to many intrigues and plots, and although the young Prince had, with the consent of Tara Bai, married the Regent's daughter, no sooner was the ceremony over than the Regent had to fly for his life, and his successor managed the state so badly, that the British Government were compelled to interfere and to demand his banishment, and even when this was done the state was distracted by two parties, whose quarrels and disagreements resulted in continual disturbances. Matters were brought to a climax when the Gwalior troops fired on the English, and two battles were fought, which resulted in Scindia's army being totally defeated. A treaty of twelve articles was concluded between the British Government and the Gwalior state. Territories were ceded to the former for the maintenance of a contingent force, and the government of Gwalior was to be carried on during the Maharaja's minority

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by a Council of Regency, which was to act upon the advice of the Resident.

Under the new plan the state became peaceful and prosperous. The late Maharaja Alijah Jayaji Rao Scindia attained his majority and assumed the reins of Government in 1854, and, assisted by his Prime Minister, the celebrated Sir Dinker Rao, K.C.S.I., a Brahman—and one of the most capable and amiable statesmen that India ever saw—introduced several beneficial reforms, and soon brought the country into a state of prosperity and peace, which continued undisturbed until the Mutiny of the Bengal Army in 1857. Although many efforts were made to induce the Maharaja to join in the rebellion, he and his Minister continued loyal to the British Government. His own body-guard was sent to Agra to assist in suppressing the revolt, and afterwards the whole contingent was placed at the disposal of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-west Provinces; but the Sepoys in the Gwalior contingent, inspired by the rebels, also revolted, and returned to Scindia, and begged him to lead them to Agra against the British; even this tempting offer he resisted, and managed to detain his troops by gifts and various devices until Delhi had fallen and Cawnpore had been relieved, but this loyalty nearly cost him his life. The rebel leader Tantia Topee, with the Ranee of Jhaneer, advanced upon him, and Scindia and his troops went out to give them battle, but his men went over to the enemy, who marched into Gwalior and took possession of the fortress, while the Maharaja and his Minister had to flee into Agra. On the 19th of June, 1858, Sir Hugh Rose retook the fortress, and on the next day Scindia returned in state to his capital; but the English retained possession of the fortress for twenty-seven years; Jayaji Rao's loyalty was rewarded by a restoration of lands, a sanad of adoption, and the right of increasing

his infantry from 3,000 to 5,000 men, and his guns from thirty-two to thirty-six; and his Minister was knighted.

The fortress of Gwalior, which was so dear to the Maharaja's heart, and for the restoration of which he so longed, is thus described by Mr. Fergusson in his "History of Indian Architecture":



THE GREAT SAS BAHU TEMPLE, GWALIOR.

(*Photograph by Frith & Co* )

"The fort of Gwalior stands on an isolated rock of ochreous sandstone formation, capped at places with basalt. The face of the fort is perpendicular, and where the rock is naturally less precipitous, it has been scarped, and in some portions the upper parts overhang the lower. The greatest length from N.E. to S.W. is a mile and half,

and the greatest breadth 300 yards. The rock at the northern end attains its maximum height of 342 feet. On its eastern side are sculptured several colossal figures in bold relief. A rampart, accessible by a steep road, and farther up by huge steps cut out of the rock, surrounds the fort. This vast staircase, the principal entrance of which is known as the 'Elephant's Gate,' from the figure of that animal being sculptured above it, is protected on the outer side by a massive stone wall, and is swept by guns. The citadel stands at the north-eastern corner of the enclosure, and presents a very picturesque appearance." The fort is said by Walford to have been built in 773 by Surya Sen, a neighbouring Rájá. In 1023 it was unsuccessfully besieged; in 1196 captured by Mahmud Ghorí; in 1211 it was lost by the Mussulmans, but recovered in 1231 after a blockade of a year by Shamsuddin Altamsh, the Slave King of Delhi. Narsinh Rai, a Hindu chief, taking advantage of the trouble produced by the invasion of Tamerlane in 1398, seized Gwalior, but it was regained in 1519 by Ibrahim Lodi, the Pathan Monarch of Delhi. In 1526 Babar took the fortress by stratagem, and in 1543, after the expulsion of his son Humayun, it fell into the hands of his rival Sher Shah; but after the re-establishment of Humayun, Gwalior was in 1556 recovered by his successor Akbar, who made it a state prison for captives of rank. In the dismemberment of the Delhi Empire, Gwalior was seized by the Ját Ráná of Gohad, and subsequently it was garrisoned by Scindia.

In 1885 the Maharaja's wish was gratified, and the historic old fortress was restored him, but through illness he was unable to be present. The ceremony is thus described in one of the Indian newspapers: "After the British flag had been saluted, it was



finally lowered and the keys of the fortress handed over by the commanding officer to Raja Sir Gumput Rao Khurkey; then, as Scindia's troops marched in, the British garrison marched out, the band playing the appropriate tune of 'Tommy make room for your Uncle.' On the same day and hour, the fort and city of Jhansi were transferred by Scindia to the British Government. The Subah formally making over his charge to the British Commissioner, who gave a receipt, Scindia's flag saluted and lowered, and the British flag ran up and saluted with thirty guns as a party of the 4th Native Infantry marched in and took possession.

He did not live long to enjoy his possession, and died at the Jái, Bilas Palace on the 20th of June, 1886, at the age of fifty-two. Taking him all in all, he can justly be called a great ruler. He was energetic, frank, and straightforward, simple and unostentatious in his life and habits, and a skilful general; he was an hon. general in the English Army, a Knight of the Grand Cross of the Bath, a G.C.S.I., and entitled to a salute of twenty-one guns. He had amassed enormous wealth, which he had hidden so well that, when he died, no one could find it, until, some time afterwards, Colonel Bannerman discovered the ingeniously devised hiding-places, in which was piled treasure worth Rs.62,000,000. In addition to coin there was an inestimable quantity of jewels, which rivalled Aladdin's store. I fear that even to enumerate them will raise feelings of longing and envy in every heart. This collection of diamonds, pearls, rubies, and emeralds was the largest in the world. He was so afraid of his wealth being discovered that he borrowed fifty lakhs of rupees from the English Government, paying five per cent. interest, although at that time he had in his vaults "silver coin that could be counted

by millions, magnificent pearls and diamonds by the tens of thousands, rubies, emeralds, and other gems by thousands, and wrought and melted gold by maunds."

The young Maharaja is now sixteen years of age, and his marriage, according to the Indian custom, which the Government does not care to authoritatively interfere with, but which is in every way to be regretted in the case of Princes, took place a year ago. He is very handsome and of great intelligence and ability; he has been very carefully educated; is exceedingly fond of shooting, riding, and all out-door sports, and is also a fair photographer. His father, the late Maharaja, was very anxious that his son should be brought up with a purely Hindu training; but, while complying as far as was reasonable or possible with the late Maharaja's wishes, the Government rightly determined that it was their duty, as guardian of a young Prince who was to rule over several millions, and whose wealth was enormous, to give him the best education procurable in both Eastern and Western learning. Especially was it necessary that a great chief in these days of progress should be well acquainted with the language of the rulers of India; and consequently the Maharaja has had both English and native tutors.

The young Maharaja is likely to prove a worthy heir to all these treasures. His advantages and powers are great, his state in good order, and its army the finest and most efficient in India. His Highness's mother is a lady of great intelligence and education.

During the five years that the Regency has lasted, great improvements have been made in the state under the direction of the British Resident, without whose initiative reform would be impossible. The change which has been made in the administration of the state—which is

larger than Scotland and Wales put together—is almost as great and as satisfactory as that which, under English superintendence, has taken place in Egypt, and when the young Prince attains his majority, Gwalior, instead of being one of the most backward, will be one of the most advanced states in India.

The state covers an area of 30,000 square miles, and has a population of three and a quarter millions, a revenue of £1,200,000 and an army of 48 guns, 4,000 cavalry, and 5,000 infantry. The city is very interesting with its many palaces and Jain and Hindu temples.

The palace in which the Maharaja usually resides is situated at the foot of the great fortress, and was built by his father at a great cost, and in a few months, in order to receive and entertain suitably the Prince of Wales when he visited Gwalior. It is a fine building of white marble, and contains a ball-room 90 feet long and 49 feet broad and 40 feet high, lighted by two magnificent chandeliers holding 248 candles; besides these, there are two pedestal chandeliers with 72 lights each. The rooms are richly ornamented, the walls covered with frescoes, and doors and windows draped with rich brocade. The gardens are large and beautifully kept, requiring the labours of 50 gardeners; in the main quadrangle are two fountains. Lots of treasures can be picked up in the bazaars in the town, some of the silk fabrics embroidered with gold being exquisite in colouring and design.

The Man Mandir Palace, one of the finest examples of early Hindu work, was built in 1486 by Mán Sinh; it is situated on the edge of a cliff, and has five towers with domed cupolas of copper; there are several other palaces, and numerous most interesting Jain temples. One, known as Sas Bahu, has the walls adorned with bas-reliefs, and the date is about 1093; the porch which is cruciform, still exists to testify to the

beauty of the whole building. Another Hindu Temple, called Teli-Ka-Mandir, rises in a succession of stories beautifully sculptured, and ends in a platform 80 feet high and 30 feet across. The doorway is 30 feet high; it is supposed to have been built between the 10th and 11th centuries. But most wonderful of all are the rock-cut sculptures, which



THE MAN MANDIR PALACE, GWALIOR.

(*Photograph by Frith & Co.*)

are excavated in the rock; they number in all about a hundred. Some of them are merely niches for statues, and some have evidently been used as monastic cells. Some of the figures are gigantic, one being 57 feet high, and according to the inscriptions on them have all been

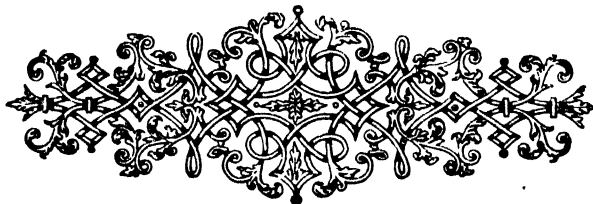
excavated within the short period of 33 years—between 1441 and 1474.

The Indian Midland Railway has been extended from Gwalior to Thansi.

Fine cottons, exquisite brocades and silks are manufactured in some of the towns, and iron ore is raised.

The Maharaja keeps an Educational Establishment, *i.e.*, one Director of State Education, two Inspectors of Schools, and a number of teachers for the Laskar College, and two masters for each of the 93 other schools. Six hundred boys are educated at the College, fifty of whom learn English, and 3,500 children are on the rolls of the district schools.

The young Maharaja has a fine prospect before him; his state is peaceful, and order reigns everywhere. The railways are opening up the country, and advancing commerce. The country is fruitful; instead of waste lands, fields of grain and fine trees are everywhere to be seen; and so far it is believed the young ruler will continue the present satisfactory state of government, and realise the high hopes that are entertained of him, so that his life and rule may be of lasting benefit to his subjects, and of satisfaction to the British Government.







HER HIGHNESS SHAH JEHAN, BEGUM OF BHOPAL, G.C.S.I., C.S.E.

## BHOPAL.

HER HIGHNESS SHAH JEHAN, BEGUM OF BHOPAL, G.C.S.I., C.S.E.



**E**XACTLY two hundred years have elapsed, since the Principality of Bhopal—one of the most important Muhammadan states, and one which has been for three generations under female rule—was founded by Dost Mahommed Khán, an Afghan, in the service of Aurangzeb. The state did not make much progress until the time of Nuzzar Mahommed Khán, a noble and enlightened young chieftain, who, in the year 1818, entered into a treaty with the English to furnish a contingent of 600 horse and 400 infantry for the service of the British Government when required, and was given in return a province called Panj Mahal. He did not live long to enjoy his prosperity, as he was accidentally shot by a child at the early age of twenty-eight. He was a Muhammadan, and had only one wife. Sir John Malcolm thus wrote of him : “The fame of Nuzzar Mahommed will long be commemorated as an object of emulation to his successors, but we must despair of seeing his equal.” He left one daughter, the late Sikander Begum, and his widow, the Qúdsia Begum, then only nineteen years of age, became Regent, and was said by Major Hough to be “distinguished by an abhorrence of debt, to discharge which she was ever ready to dispose of her jewels and make other personal sacrifices. She was liberal to her troops and friends, and a severe judge of such of her servants as



were convicted of a breach of faith, or oppression to her poorer subjects; and showed remarkable discernment in her choice of officials." In 1835 her daughter, Sikander Begum, then nineteen years of age, was married to the Nawab Jehanjir Mahommed Khán, and shortly afterwards—in order to learn how to become a good ruler like her mother—started on a tour through her dominions, and made herself thoroughly acquainted by personal observation with the state of the country and condition of the ryots. It would be impossible in a brief sketch to dwell on her extraordinary abilities, transcendent virtue, and the numerous administrative reforms she effected during her long and glorious career. Within the short space of six years all the debts against the state were liquidated; the system of farming the revenues (rent paid in kind) and monopolies of trades and handicrafts were abolished; the police were reorganised, and various other important improvements introduced. Colonel Malleeson writes "that Her Highness displayed an energy, an assiduity, and an administrative ability such as would have done credit to a trained statesman"; and, further, when alluding to the troublous times of the Indian Mutiny of 1857 he states: "She was equal to the occasion; true to the traditions of her country, to her plighted word, to the sentiments of truth and honour. She caused the British officers to be conducted in safety to Hoshangabad (a British station garrisoned by Madras troops, about fifty-four miles from Bhopal); then with infinite tact allayed the excitement in her capital; put down the mutinous contingent with a strong hand, and, finally, restored order in every part of her dominions. When the tide turned, and the British supremacy began to vindicate itself, she was as prompt in another way with her aid—supplies, soldiers, all that she had, that could be useful, she gave with a liberal hand."

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How these inestimable services, rendered at an extremely perilous and critical period in the history of the Empire, were appreciated will be shown by the following memorable words spoken by Lord Canning, Governor-General of India, at the grand durbar held at Tahlipore, December 15th, 1860 : "Sikander Begum, your Highness is very welcome to this durbar. I have long desired to thank you for the services you have rendered to the Queen's Government. Your Highness is the ruler of a state which is conspicuous in Indian history for never having been in arms against the British power ; and, lately, when that state was beset and threatened by our enemies, you, a woman, guided its affairs with a courage, an ability, and a success that would have done honour to any statesman or soldier. Besides the greater services of repressing the revolt around you, and of securing the safety of all Englishmen, amongst whom was the agent of the Governor-General (Sir Henry Marion Durand, K.C.S.I., C.B.), you never failed to aid and expedite to the utmost of your power all bodies of British troops that came within your reach. Such services must not go unrewarded. I now place in your hands the grant in sovereignty of the district of Bairasia, the district which was formerly a dependency of the state of Dhar ; but it has, by rebellion, forfeited all claim to it, and it is now given in perpetuity to Bhopal as a memorial of loyalty under your brave and wise guidance in time of trial." Her Highness was also invested with the Order of the Star of India, of which she had been created Grand Commander. She was a remarkable person, and never veiled in the fashion of Muhammadan women, but administered the state in person with the utmost energy and aptitude ; a strange combination, full of generous impulses, but fierce, strong, and relentless. She kept her daughter, the present Begum, in the most abject state of

submission. On one occasion, hearing that her daughter had met in the house of a relative a young man of the Royal House of Delhi, who was soliciting her hand ; she imprisoned her for months in her own room, and beat her with her own hand, while the unfortunate lover was hung in an iron cage at the gate of the fortress ; and was only released after some months on the persistent remonstrance of the British Political Officer. In the year 1863 the Sikander Begum accompanied by several members of her family, went on a pilgrimage to Mecca, leaving her daughter, the present ruler, in charge of the state ; she wrote an interesting account of her journey, which has been translated and published in England. On the 30th November Sikander Begum, died, and was succeeded by her daughter, Nawab Shah Jehan, then a widow thirty-one years of age. When her father died in 1844, she was only seven years old ; but at the age of ten, on the fourth of January, 1847, she was proclaimed ruler of Bhopal, her mother, the late Sikander Begum, becoming Regent ; but so great was the love and veneration of the daughter for her illustrious mother, that on the first of May, 1860 she abdicated the throne in her favour, and assumed the position of heir-apparent, which she retained until her mother's death, when she ascended the throne for the *second* time on March 2nd, 1868. Her Highness inherits all her mother's firmness and administrative powers, combined with great gentleness of manner, and strong intellectual powers. She is a tiny little lady, not taller than an ordinary English child of ten. When young she had a bright and pleasing face, though not strictly pretty, and her eyes were wonderfully large and brilliant.

A French gentleman thus graphically describes the Nawab Shah Jehan as he saw her during her mother's lifetime : " I had an appointment with Her Highness the Begum before leaving Bhopal, so called

at the palace, which is full of European treasures and luxuries. In the room into which I was ushered sat a little girl, whom I took to be the daughter of one of the court nobles, and was on the point of addressing her, when she rose, and with a very stately inclination of the head, said, 'I am the Shah Jehan'; at the same time extending a

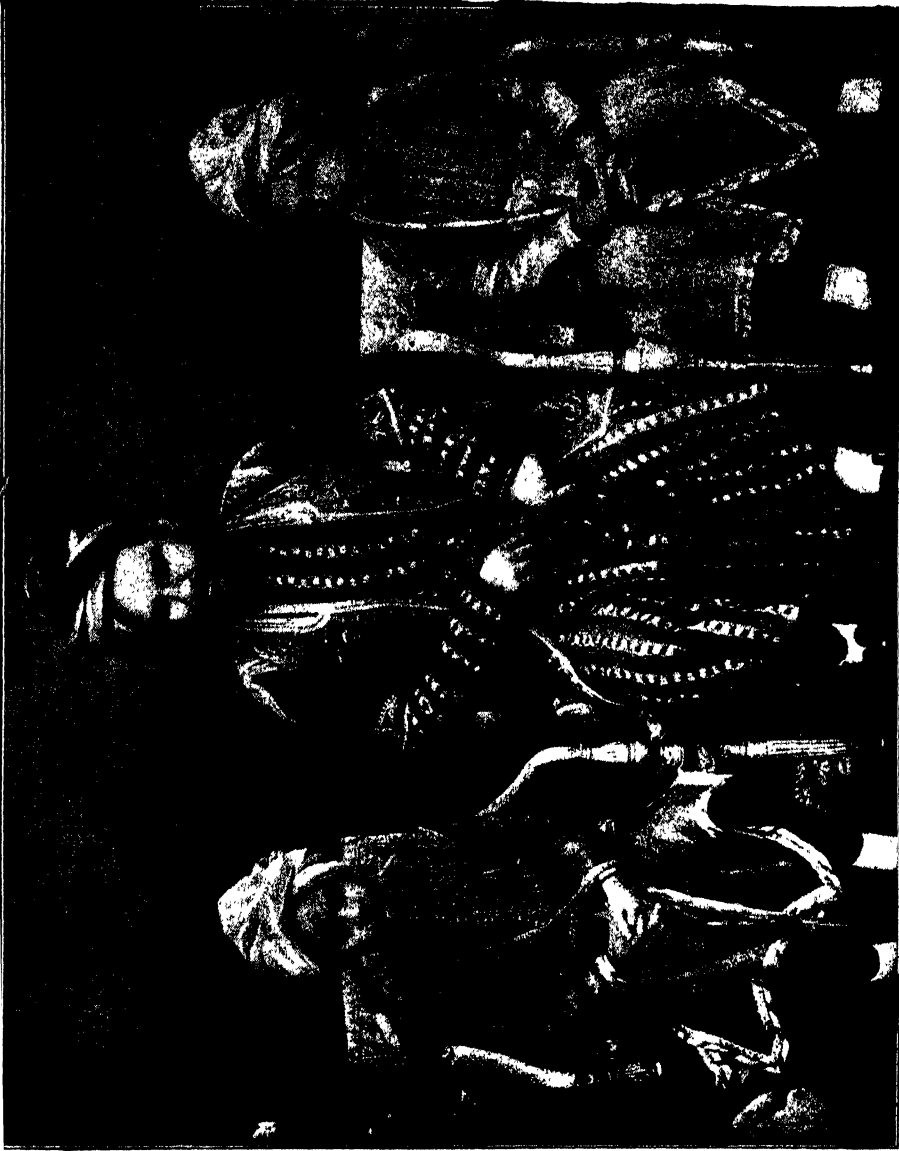


TEMPLE, BHOPAL CITY.  
[From a photo by Frith & Co.]

tiny hand covered with jewels. When I had somewhat recovered from my confusion, I noticed that, although of diminutive stature, she had a handsome, intellectual face, and very large, piercing eyes. She wore close-fitting pantaloons of gold brocade, embroidered jacket, and a muslin toque."

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During her journey she visited parts of the country which had not been seen for seventeen years by the ruler of the state. Proclamations were issued inviting her subjects to prefer complaints without fear, and she enquired personally into all the cases brought before her ; any subjects aggrieved got back their money and property, and the oppressors were brought to justice. The weights used at the Bazaars were tested and reduced to a uniform standard. Public offices were erected, and trees were planted on encamping grounds, to afford shade and shelter to travellers, and tanks and wells were excavated wherever there was scarcity of water. A pleasant break in her arduous duties of reform occurred when, at the close of 1869, Her Highness went to Calcutta to pay her respects to the Duke of Edinburgh, and the kind reception she experienced, alike at the hands of H.R.H. and H.E. the Viceroy, kindled in her breast the warmest feeling of loyalty and allegiance, and she looked on this visit as the Golden Era of her life. In 1870 she recommenced her tour in the western division, in order to hold enquiries and introduce reforms wherever necessary. For the benefit and relief of officials who were burdened with over-work, she fixed Friday as a day of rest. The artillery was improved, and horses were substituted for bullocks. A Forest Department was organised, which proved an additional source of revenue to the state ; and the survey connected with the settlement being unsatisfactory, trained surveyors were brought over from British territory. The "Shah Jehan" Press was established for the issue of school-books. Every district where a detachment of the army was stationed was supplied with medical men, and a chief inspector in charge of them. A rule allowing three months' privilege leave after three years' service was introduced. The powers of the civil and criminal courts were in-



HER HIGHNESS THE BEGUM'S SON-IN-LAW AND TWO GRANDSONS.

creased, and their jurisdiction defined, and, to prevent delay in the disposal of suits, limits were fixed, and every court was required to submit regular returns; and, lastly, a code, called "Tanzimat-i-Shah Jehan," was prepared for the guidance of the Courts of Justice.

In 1871 H.H. the Begum, with the consent and approval of the British Government, married Syed Mohammed Sedique Hossein Khan, and in 1872 the British Government conferred upon her the dignity of K.C.S.I., and upon her husband a Khillut and title of Nawab; after her marriage she again went on tour, this time through the southern division of the state, reorganising the Civil Courts and bringing justice within easy reach of her poorest subjects. In the following year the British Government, recognising the unswerving loyalty of the Begum and her exertions for the well-being and improvement of the state, conferred on her the dignity of Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India. The next step taken by this energetic Princess was to beautify her capital by widening the roads and streets, and lighting them, at a cost of 30,000 rupees per annum; fine public buildings were also erected, and the sanitation improved. Some thirty schools were founded; post-offices established in every village, as well as outposts; and a regular staff of police for protecting travellers from robbers and dacoits. The custom duties were regulated and duty abolished on several articles of consumption.

In 1875 Her Highness again visited Calcutta, to welcome the Prince of Wales, and the following year was present at a grand durbar held at Delhi, where she received a Royal Insignia and a sanad; and on her return to her state was more active than ever in promoting good works. The expenditure was about equal with the income; little or nothing was spent on private pleasures or luxuries, but the

daily increasing prosperity and comfort of her subjects spoke loudly for the liberal and enlightened principles by which they were governed. An important movement was the abolishing of the *Fatka* (a tax on grain and cotton); then followed the building of a fine hospital, named after the Prince of Wales, also several bungalows for the accommodation of European travellers, and an asylum for foundlings and orphan girls. Her Highness also contributed the vast sum of half a million towards the construction of the Bhopal State Railway.

The Begum has one child, a daughter, the Sultan Jehan (by her first husband), whom she fondly loves, and took the greatest interest in her education. She married Ahmed Ali, a young man from the Afghan frontier, and has had four children the eldest of whom, a girl, has lately died, to the great grief of her grandmother, by whom she had been brought up almost from infancy; her name was Beel Rir. There are also two fine boys, the eldest of whom is now 13. The Ruler's health and happiness have of late years been disturbed by unhappy family quarrels, but it is to be hoped that the present misunderstanding may speedily cease, and that peace may once more reign in Bhopal and in the bosom of its noble Ruler, whose enlightened reign—like her mother's—although hampered by the religious and social customs of the East, has been an era of civilisation and progress which no European nation can equal.

Her Highness is now 55 years of age and a widow for the second time. Her munificent charities have not been confined to her own territories alone, large donations having been given to various institutions in British India, and £1,600 contributed to Lady Dufferin's grand work of providing medical aid to the women of India.



Her Majesty the Queen recognised and valued the unflinching loyalty and enlightened reform of Her Highness the Begum, for when in January, 1878, the Imperial Order of the Crown of India was first instituted, Her Highness was on that date, along with the members of the Royal Family, appointed one of the ladies of that Order.

To go back nearly a century ago, Bhopal was even then the one state which declared in favour of England against the Mahrattas, and rendered material help to Colonel Goddard during his hazardous march through Central India; and its help to General Adams for the extirpation of the Pindaries is recorded in history. From that day to the present its loyalty has been untarnished, and its Ruler can have no higher meed of praise than that given her by Sir Richard Temple in his "Men and Events of my time in India": "The Begum of Bhopal affords an example which may cheer the advocate of female education in India as showing the standard which a woman may reach. All women may be proud to learn that one of their own sex, unaided, alone, surrounded by innumerable difficulties, has accomplished what few men would attempt."

Her Highness is entitled to a salute of nineteen guns.







HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SIR SYAJI RAO SEVA KHASKHEL SAMSHER BAHADUR,  
FARZAND-I-KUASHI-DOWLAT-I, INGLESHTIA G.C.S.I., GAEKWAR OF BARODA.

# THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

## BARODA.

HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SIR SYAJI RAO SEVA KHASKHEL SAMSHER BAHADUR,  
FARZAND-I-KUASHI-DOWLAT-I, INGLESIA G.C.S.I., THE GAEKWAR OF BARODA.



UCH are the names, rank, and titles of the great Hindu Mahratta chief who rules over the first-class native state of Baroda, situated in Western India, within the limits of the Bombay Presidency, but under the political control of the Government of India. The state is divided into five blocks, three of which are comprised in what is known as Guzerat possessions, and two in the Kathiawar possessions, called "the Amrelli Panch Mahals." These are :—

### GUZERAT POSSESSIONS :

- (1) Kadi, or Northern division.
- (2) Baroda, or Central division.
- (3) Navsari, or Southern division.

### KATHIAWAR POSSESSIONS :

- (4) Amrelli, with four other Talukas, or districts.
- (5) Okhamandal.

The Guzerat possessions are situated between  $21^{\circ}$  and  $24^{\circ}$  north latitude, and between  $71^{\circ} 25'$  and  $73^{\circ} 75'$  east longitude. In Kathiawar the Panch Mahals proper are between  $20^{\circ} 45'$  and  $21^{\circ} 42'$  north latitude,

and between  $70^{\circ} 75'$  and  $71^{\circ} 22'$  east longitude. Okhamandal is situated between  $22^{\circ}$  and  $22^{\circ} 28'$  north latitude, and between  $68^{\circ} 58'$  and  $69^{\circ} 14'$  east longitude. The area of the whole state was returned in 1881 as 8,570 square miles, with a population of 2,415,396 souls, of which 1,252,983 are males, and 1,162,413 females. The population of the city of Baroda, inclusive of the British cantonment, was 62,871 males and 53,549 females, making a total of 116,420 souls; that of the cantonment alone being 2,314 males and 1,635 females; total, 3,949. The revenue of the whole is stated to be about 12,431,250 British rupees. The total strength of the army (exclusive of police) maintained at the cost of the state is :—

				Regular.			Irregular.
Infantry	...	...	...	3,182	...	...	1,806
Cavalry	...	...	...	1,500	...	...	20,31
Artillery	...	...	...	93	...	...	
				<u>4,775</u>			<u>3,837</u>

The strength of the police is, foot, 4,321; mounted, 380. There are 195 guns, besides 22 toy guns, and 16 jinjals. In addition to these there are two silver and two gold guns; the former were made in the time of Maharaja Khandero, the adopted father of the present Maharaja, and the latter in that of the ex-Gaekwar Maharaja Malharrao. They were manufactured at Baroda by a native blacksmith, commonly known as "Lakha Lawar," and weigh 280 lbs. each. It is impossible to ascertain their precise cost, but at any rate several lacs of rupees must have been spent on them.

The northern division is watered by several great rivers, such as the Nerbudda, Tápti, and Mahi, besides numerous minor streams, and the

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central division, surrounding the capital of the state, is flat, but well wooded, the soil rich, yielding large crops of valuable cotton. The only mountains in the whole territory are the Rajpipla Hills, which form the southern boundary of the central division. There are 3,720 towns and villages in the state, the population of which is composed of Hindus, Mussulmans, Jains, and Parsees: the latter mostly live at Navasari, where they established themselves over 500 years ago, and have kept their sacred fire burning ever since. The two principal forts are Songarh—which was once the Gaekwar's headquarters—and Sâler.

The rulers of Baroda all bear the title of Gaekwar, which, literally translated, means herdsman. Nearly all the rulers were of peasant descent. The first member of the family mentioned in Indian history was Damaji Gaekwar, who specially distinguished himself at the battle of Bâlapur in 1721, and on the recommendation of the Senapati, or commander-in-chief, of the Mahratta army, was made his lieutenant under Raja Shahu of Satâra. His nephew, Pilaji Rao, who succeeded him, was a moral, energetic, and clever man, and was promoted to a high office under the Governor of Guzerat, but was shortly afterwards assassinated by the Raja of Jodhpur, who had become jealous of his power. He was followed by his son Damaji, who, during his chieftaincy, extending over 40 years, succeeded—with the help of the Peshwa Balaji Rao, with whom he had covenanted to share his territory—in completely overthrowing the Mughal government in Guzerat. Damaji died in 1761, leaving three wives, each of whom had sons, who hotly disputed the succession, but it was ultimately arranged that Syaji Rao, the eldest son of the second wife, should be Gaekwar, and the regency was assumed by his brother, Fateh Singh, and he was followed by the younger son of the third wife. In 1817 the Gaekwar entered into a

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treaty with the British Government, by which, in exchange for certain districts, he agreed to assist the British with his troops in time of war, and also to maintain a contingent of 3,000 horse at the disposal of the British Government. Syaji Rao died in 1847, and was succeeded by his son Ganbat Rao, who only lived nine years, being succeeded by his brother Khandi Rao, who gave valuable help to the British Government during the Mutiny. His brother, Malhar Rao, attempted to poison him with the juice of the pomelo, mixed with ground diamonds, but his treachery was discovered, and he was confined in the state prison, which he only left to mount the throne, on the death of his brother. The most charitable construction that can be placed on the conduct of the late Gaekwar is that his excesses and cruelties were the result of a neglected youth. He had received but little education, and his violent temper was akin to madness. He indulged in all kinds of brutal pleasures, and practised the most inhuman cruelties upon anyone who happened to offend him. He was also superstitious and weak, and the sudden transition from a prison to the throne only tended to add to his vices, by giving him the means of committing horrible crimes, without the fear of punishment. The state was shamefully misgoverned, and the ruler steeped himself in every possible folly, vice, and extravagance, until his subjects were brought into a pitiable state of misery. Justice was sold to the highest bidder, profligacy and extravagance reigned in the palaces, and the poor were robbed and illtreated until their lives had become a misery to them. The Gaekwar was repeatedly admonished by the British Government, but the climax was reached when an attempt was made to poison the British Resident, Colonel Phayre, C.B., and the Gaekwar was suspected of having instigated the attempt, and, indeed, was said to have bribed those concerned in carrying out the crime ; so

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he was deposed from sovereignty in 1875, and was succeeded by Sir Syaji Rao, the present Gaekwar, who, though descended from the founder of the state, is no relation of the late ruler, and was taken from a peasant's hut in an obscure village to reign over one of the richest and most important states in India. The early history of some of these great Eastern Potentates reads like that of the kings of Israel, whose early years were spent in simple, homely, out-door pursuits, from which, without any preparation, they were made rulers of a mighty race.

During the minority of his Highness the present Gaekwar, the government was entrusted to a Brahmin minister, Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao, under whose capable management great reforms were effected, and every department was reorganised. The young ruler was placed under the best tutors, his progress was rapid and satisfactory, and it was marvellous to note with what dignity and composure the little peasant boy accepted the change of position, and the rapidity with which he accommodated himself to his new surroundings. When, in 1875, his Highness was taken to Bombay to meet the Prince of Wales, his appearance is thus described by Dr. Russell :

“All eyes were dazzled when Maharaja Syaji Rao, the little boy whom the Government of India installed as the Gaekwar of Baroda, stood at the threshold of the door : a crystallised rainbow. He is a small, delicately-framed lad for his twelve years and more, with a bright pleasant face. He was weighted—head, neck, chest, and arms, fingers and ankles—with such a sight and wonder of vast diamonds, emeralds, rubies, and pearls as would be worth the loot of many a rich town. It is useless to give the estimate I heard of their value, and the little gentleman has more at home.” Another eye-witness writes : “Here we may note what to a European may seem one of the



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most marvellous features of the whole affair, namely, the wonderful self-possession of the young Gaekwar. This boy, aged twelve years, who a few months ago was only a village lad in comparative poverty, bears himself with perfect composure and dignity, and appears to his inferiors every inch a king, as though he had sat on the Gadi for half a century; while he fell naturally and with genuine gracefulness into a tone of perfect equality and frank boyish cordiality, well blended with dignity, in his intercourse with the Prince of Wales." In 1880 his Highness was married to a niece of the Princess of Tanjore, and his education was supplemented with lectures on civil government, revenue, finance, laws, and the army, and in 1881, when his Highness was invested with full power, the Prince, in a manly and earnest speech, explained his future aims and wishes with regard to the progress of the state, and his loyalty to the British Government. In 1885 the Prince lost his wife, who died suddenly, leaving one son; two daughters had died in infancy. In December the same year his Highness married again, and on the 12th of May, 1888, a second son was born to him.

The Baroda of to-day is one of the most prosperous of states; assisted by able ministers, his Highness has effected Herculean changes. The condition of the ryots is materially improved, and education is progressing with the most happy results. The administration is carried on in a very effective manner; the Prime Minister exercises supervision over every department, and under him are four officials who have charge of the following departments:—

- (1) Political, Military, and Settlement.
- (2) Judicial, Private, General, and Educational.
- (3) Jail, Municipality, Medical, and Public Works.
- (4) Audit, Treasury, Accounts, and Mint.

The salaries of these State officials vary from £100 to £105 per month.

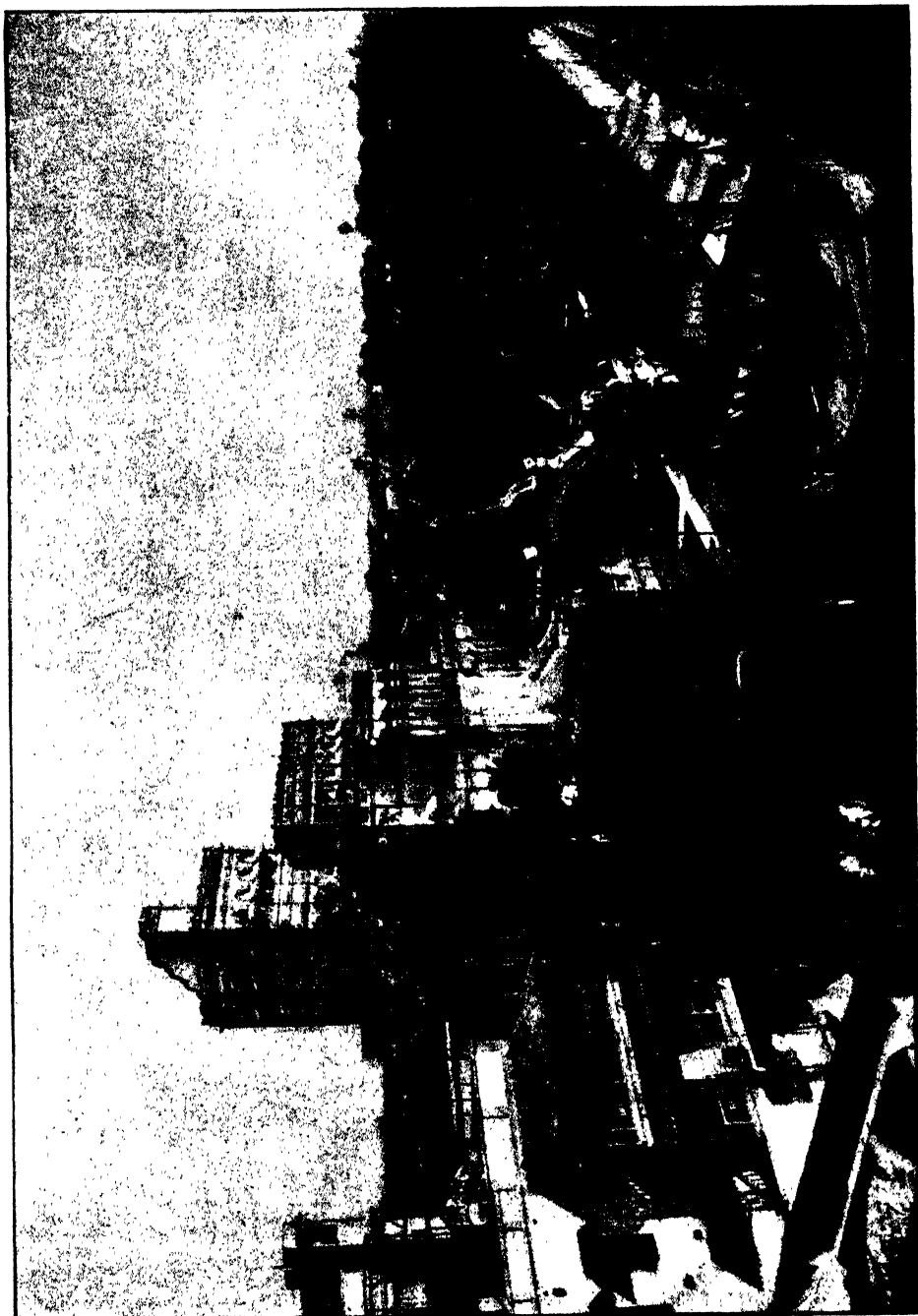
Besides these, there are officials in charge of each division of the State called *Subhas*, and under them ten other deputy *Subhas*, or *Náibs*, each of whom has charge of a sub-division. The ten divisions are divided into thirty-one minor divisions, each one of which is managed by a *Tahsildárs*. The form of Government very much resembles that of China, the sovereign pontiff being the Gaekwar, under him the Prime Minister, responsible for every department, and also for all the officials and sub-officials who rule under him. Every capital sentence has to be confirmed by the Prime Minister, the Chief Justice of each division having only the power to sentence to fourteen years' imprisonment and fines. The *Náibs*, *Subhas*, and *Tahsildárs* are also magistrates, empowered to inflict fines not exceeding £100 and imprisonment for four years. New laws have been made, principally based on the British Indian Codes. Great improvements have been effected during the present reign in the improvement of the condition of the agricultural classes, and every encouragement given them to improve their holdings; also by favourable grants of waste lands, bringing large areas under cultivation, while the abolishing of petty imports has given an impetus to trade and industry which will materially add to the prosperity of the country and the condition of the people.

In 1887 the Gaekwar, on account of his health, made a prolonged tour in Europe, accompanied by the Maharani and a numerous suite. They visited the Queen at Windsor, who invested his Highness with the decoration of the Grand Commander of the Star of India, and presented him with a beautiful medallion portrait of herself. His Highness also resided some time at Brighton, and on his return to Baroda

was most enthusiastically welcomed. The reception accorded him by his delighted subjects proved how greatly beloved he is, and is thus described by Mr. Jehangir :—" The route traversed by their Highnesses was decorated with triumphal arches, and was strewn with gold and silver flowers, whilst women stood at the street corners, holding sacred fire, Buttées on brass trays laden with ceremonial offerings, and loyal inscriptions of welcome greeted the royal couple all the way to the Palace."

The Gaekwar is entitled to a salute of twenty-one guns, his territory is well-cultivated, and produces large quantities of grain, opium, tobacco, sugar-cane, and oil-seeds, and is also celebrated for a fine breed of large white cattle.

There are several important towns in the state noted for special manufactures, and for the ruins of fine temples and tombs, which bear witness to the former importance of the state. Voharo Kather is noted for its deep rich red vegetable dye, Sojitia for knives, Dabhoi for its woven turbans and saris; here are also the ruins of a fine Hindu temple, 320 feet long, the upper story being supported on rows of sculptured elephants. In Patten is manufactured a very artistic pottery. Baroda city is situated on the left bank of the river Viswamitra, and is surrounded by a large wall, outside of which lie the beautiful wooded suburbs. The river is spanned by several stone bridges; the city is intersected by two principal streets, which divide it into four parts. The entrance into the town is by a handsome gateway, with large round towers, at which the Gaekwar's soldiers are stationed. There are several fine buildings, such as the old Nazar Bagh Palace, in which the Gaekwar's jewels, worth over £3,000,000, are kept. Here travellers are allowed to see the famous diamond collar, composed of



THE NAZAR BAGH PALACE, BARODA.  
[From a photo by Lala Deen Dayal.]

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500 diamonds arranged in five rows, and two rows of emeralds. The pendant is one beautiful diamond larger than the Kohinor, called "The Star of the South." A diamond aigrette to match is a blaze of splendour; chains of exquisite pearls, all about the size of a small nut, and perfect in shape and colour; gleaming necklaces of sapphires and rubies, rings worth a king's ransom, and last, but not least, a carpet woven of strings of pearls, with the centre and corners of diamonds, 10 feet by 6, which cost £200,000, and took three years to complete. This was made in the reign of Khandi Rao, and was intended as a present for a lady with whom he was in love. The present ruler wisely expends *his* money on public buildings, hospitals, and other institutions, for the benefit of his subjects, instead of amassing hordes of useless jewels, beautiful though they may be. Close to the Nazar Bagh Palace are the residences of the bankers and jewellers, and a little distance off the Amphitheatre, where athletic sports and elephant and buffalo fights take place. Outside the city there is a fine public park, through which the river runs, beautifully shaded by numerous trees, full of fairy-like nooks, and pleasant resting-places; birds without number, and of every variety of plumage; pavilions, which are the homes of tigers, lions, and other wild animals; while graceful antelopes and deer wander over the lawns;—a delicious spot, where everything that meets the eye is a fresh delight. It is maintained at an annual cost of Rs.23,24. To return to the Palace, to which entrance is obtained by a very commonplace flight of steps leading into a room where the guard is stationed. Through this room a narrow dark staircase leads into the floor above, where the rooms are small, but richly decorated, and hung with tapestry. Up higher, passing similar rooms, the visitor reaches the top of the Palace, on which

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is an immense terrace with pavilions and many-storied kiosks. The furniture of the state apartments is mostly European; but the numerous pillars are of native work exquisitely carved, the cushions and lounges of Eastern colourings and designs. Mirrors and curios almost cover the walls. A magnificent new Palace has been built in Indo-Saracenic style, superbly decorated and fitted. The Gaekwar has also a Palace seven miles from the city where he spends the summer months. This, likewise, is furnished in European style, the walls being covered with paintings by English and French artists, a picture of Windsor Castle occupying the most prominent position.

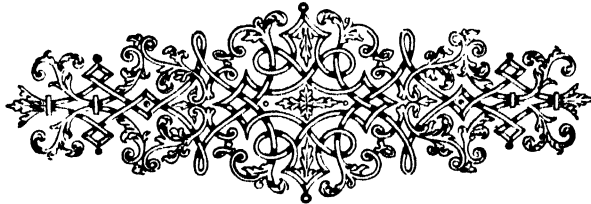
The Gaekwar, who speaks English fluently, and is most hospitable and kind to European travellers, is an ardent reformer. Waterworks, hospitals, dispensaries, and colleges are springing up all over his state. Regular Courts of Justice have been established. A strange institution is the Sardar Court, where only cases affecting any of the Gaekwar's family or the aristocracy are tried. The Dewan, Mr. Laxuman Jaganath, is a most able administrator. Born in a comparatively humble position he, by his ability and tact, raised himself to his present onerous post, and during the absence of his Highness the Gaekwar, for three years his capabilities were severely tested. All the responsibility of state was upon his shoulders, but not a hitch occurred in any department of the state. Quietly, and with the greatest tact, abuses were put down and reforms effected where necessary. His Highness is equally fortunate in his other officials. The Gaekwar wears on state occasions a velvet tunic—usually crimson—almost covered with precious stones; a turban with a diamond aigrette in front, the centre of which is one large stone, said to be one of the finest diamonds in the world. It was bought by the late Gaekwar, and is considered

to be the gem of the collection. Among the amusements of the Court are hunting parties, tilting matches, and elephant combats, while during the rainy season dinner-parties, enlivened by music and the performances of the dancing-girls, who are dressed in muslin tunics, with many trinkets, bracelets, anklets, and huge earrings, which rest on their shoulders and tinkle musically as they move gracefully in their mazy dance.

Descriptions of the *fêtes* and processions in the city of Baroda read like a page from the "Arabian Nights," but even then would hardly convey an idea of the splendour of the Prince and his nobles. The horses have their manes twisted into small plaits, from which gold coins and ornaments hang; plumes of ostrich feathers on their heads, their velvet coverings richly embroidered and edged with gold and silver fringe, and the riders in picturesque costumes blazing with jewels. Next come the elephants, on which the principal ministers of the state ride; they also have rich velvet housings nearly sweeping the ground, their trunks and foreheads painted in fantastic designs, plumes of white ostrich feathers placed between the ears and silver howdahs. The Gaekwar's elephant is a huge creature, the covering being of velvet and the howdah of gold encrusted with jewels,—this was presented to his Highness by the Empress Queen,—plumes of feathers fastened to each tusk, and gold ornaments falling on the forehead from the velvet covering. The attendants carry fans of peacocks' feathers. The whole scene is one of splendour and magnificence impossible to be described. In the time of the late ruler a hundred elephants were kept at the expense of the state, and criminals were executed in a most horrible manner. The poor wretch, tied hand and foot, was fastened by a long rope round the waist to the elephant's hind leg;

then the animal was made to trot through the city, and the man at almost every step rebounding against stones and obstacles soon became a mass of bruises and wounds, and a ghastly spectacle. If he survived this his head was placed on a block, and the elephant crushed it with his foot.

It is pleasant to think that, in place of the barbaric splendour and the scenes of cruelty and torture of the past, Baroda is becoming a model happy state under the rule of an enlightened and intellectual Prince, assisted by competent trained statesmen. His Highness and the Maharani are again (1892) touring in Europe, and have dined with the Queen at Windsor Castle, and taken part in several public functions, spending some months in Switzerland. His Highness has also, developed a taste for yachting, and is one of the first of the Indian Princes who has become a yacht owner. The *Zingara* is a fine steam yacht, schooner rigged, of 542 tons, built by Messrs. Steele, of Greenock, for Mr. J. Charles Tasker, of Bombay.







THE MAHA RAO OF CUTCH.

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## CUTCH.

HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA MERZA SHRI KHENGARJI, G.C.I.E., MAHA RAO OF  
CUTCH.



THE interesting province of Cutch is situated in the west of India, to the south of Sind, being only connected with the mainland by a narrow tract. It is a native state, under the political control of the Government of Bombay, covering an area—exclusive of the Runn—of 6,500 miles, its length from east to west being 205 miles, and its average breadth from north to south 110 miles. The population, according to the census of 1881, was 512,084 souls, composed of Hindus and Muhammadans. The revenue is £220,000 and the trade amounts to £800,000. The state maintains a small army consisting of 240 cavalry, 400 foot-soldiers, 495 Arabs, and 40 artillerymen, and about 3,000 irregular infantry. The Bhayads, or “Brethren of the Tribe,” who, like the Rao, are Jareja Rajputs, could furnish about 4,000 men more, which they are under an obligation to do in a time of emergency. A subsidiary force is also stationed in Bhuj (the capital) for the protection of the country, and the state is in treaty bound to give £18,695 per annum, to defray its expenses. The country is varied by several mountainous ranges and isolated peaks, such as the Dora range and the Charwár hills. There are also several tracts of rich pasture land, and fertile, well-cultivated valleys, which form a pleasant contrast to the

high, rugged peaks that rise up several hundred feet above the level of the sea. There are no rivers, but during the rainy season several streams flow from the hills down to the Gulf of Cutch, leaving occasional pools on their track. There are also plenty of wells. The Runn, or Salt Desert, is a vast, dreary waste, covering an area of nearly 9,000 square miles, and is supposed to have been once an inland sea; it almost surrounds the state. Sir William Hunter thus describes it: "The soil is dark, and is generally caked or blistered by the action of the sun on the saline particles, with which the surface is impregnated. At times, the whole surface, particularly of the eastern part of the Runn is covered with salt. With the exception of some of the smaller islands, on which grow a few stunted bushes of grass, there is no sign of vegetable life. The wild ass roams over the Runn, finding subsistence on the grasses in the islands and at the borders. During the rains, when the whole tract is frequently laid under water, a passage across is a work of great labour, and often of considerable danger. . . . The flood-waters, as they dry, leave a hard, flat surface, covered with stone, shingle, and salt. As the summer wears on, and the heat increases, the ground, baked and blistered by the sun, shines over large tracts of salt with dazzling whiteness, the distance dimmed and distorted by an increasing mirage. On some raised plots of rocky land, water is found, and only near water is there any vegetation. Except a stray bird, a herd of wild asses, or an occasional caravan, no sign of life breaks the desolate loneliness." Some hundreds of years ago the country suffered from severe volcanic disturbances, and during the present century has been subject to shocks of earthquake; the most severe and destructive occurred in 1819, when 7,000 houses at Bhuj, and the Rao's palace were entirely destroyed, and 1,150 people were killed. The authentic history of

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Cutch can be traced back to the eleventh century, when the name of the state was Anoopdesh and the capital was Patghud.

The tribe of Jareja Rajputs, to which the royal family belong, are descended from the Summa tribe, who, under the leadership of a bold warrior called Jam Lakha, son of Jara, from which the tribe derive their name, emigrated from Sind about the fifteenth century. In 1506, Jam Ravel killed his brother Hummerji, who was then ruling over Cutch, and usurped his throne. The four sons of the murdered chief fled and sought protection of the King of Ahmedabad, by whom they were kindly received, and one of them named Khengar, having saved the life of the King of Ahmedabad when he was attacked by a lion, received the title of Rao and the principality of Morvi, and from there continuously harassed his uncle Jam Ravel, who had usurped his dominion, until the latter was compelled to flee to Kathiawar, where he became the founder of the present royal family of Navanagar, whose rulers are still called Jams. Khengar took possession of Cutch, and proclaimed himself Rao, which title has since been retained by his successors. He founded the town of Bhuj in 1548, and made it the capital of his dominions. After the death of Khengar, six generations succeeded according to primogeniture, until Pragji, the third son of Rayadham Rao, obtained possession of his father's throne by stratagem, then murdered his brothers, and proclaimed himself King of Cutch. He made the son of his elder brother the ruler of Morvi, and his descendants still govern it. After Pragji came Daisulji, who was succeeded by his son Lakhput Rao, a clever man and a good administrator; he encouraged education, and having rendered important military service to the Emperor of Delhi, received from him the title of *Mirza* and a standard which is still preserved and used upon important occasions. He was also held in honour by Mahmed Sha of Cabul, who

bestowed upon him the title of Maharaja. Under Lakhput Rao's able rule the country became prosperous, and, when he died, his sixteen wives burnt themselves on his funeral pyre. Their tombs are close to the British Residency.

The Jarejas, although otherwise a fairly enlightened people, were greatly disliked by other clans because they practised female infanticide. The originator of this dreadful custom is said to have been the chief Jára, who killed his seven daughters because he could not find suitable husbands for them. Between the present Maharaja and Khengar, fifteen princes ruled over Cutch; but it will only be necessary to mention the two most distinguished of the number. These were Rao Desulji, the grandfather, and Rao Pragmalji, the father of the present ruler (1892). Desulji was an earnest and noble prince, anxious to adopt all measures suggested by the British Government which tended to promote the welfare and prosperity of his subjects. His son Pragmalji, the late Maharaja, who had inherited all his father's good qualities, in addition to the most refined and courtly manners, ruled the state for fifteen years. He was a highly enlightened and liberal chief, and most loyal to the British Government. He carried out many administrative reforms, framed codes for the guidance of his officials, and introduced a state-system of education; he erected a court-house, jail, a fine hospital, and several schools, laid out roads, and altogether expended, on various public works, the immense sum of Rs. 32,41,435. His Highness also started building a magnificent Gothic palace at Bhuj, but did not live to see it completed. In order to encourage education, he endowed a high school in his capital, founded two scholarships in the Elphinstone College, and two in the School of Art at Bombay.

In 1871 his Highness was made a Knight Grand Commander of the

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Star of India. He died in the January of 1876, leaving two sons, the eldest of whom, the present Maharaja, being then ten years of age. During his minority the state was governed by a Council of Regency, the president of which was the Political Agent. In accordance with the wishes of his mother, the late Maharani, Naniba Sahib, the young prince, was not sent to college, but placed with a special tutor, under whom he made rapid progress; an English tutor was then selected to superintend the Rao's education, under the control of Captain Wray. In a very short time he spoke English fluently, and showed the keenest desire to acquire knowledge. His natural ability and assiduous industry gave grand promise of his future. While still under a tutor, he acquired a practical insight into state affairs, the management of the revenue, and other administrative departments. During his minority much of the prosperity and progress of the state was due to the loyal devotion, ability, and untiring energy of the late minister, Mr. Manibhai Jushbai.

In August, 1884, his Highness Rao Khengarji, then eighteen years age, was invested with full powers. It was a happy day for his subjects, who, one and all, felt their hearts thrill with joy when the royal, handsome youth, of stately presence, well educated, of refined tastes, and, like his father, of most courtly manners, was installed as Rao of Cutch by his Excellency the Governor, Sir James Fergusson, a part of whose speech on the occasion will show in what esteem the young Maharaja was held: "I venture to augur very favourably of His Highness' reign. His natural intelligence has been well developed, his mind has been instructed by a liberal education, he possesses a complete knowledge of the circumstances and wants of his country and people; but, more hopeful still, are his disposition and character. The frequent opportunities which I have had of judging of them, as well as

the unanimous testimony of those who have known him from childhood, convince me that he possesses a kind heart as well as a clear judgment, and cherishes a resolute adherence to the call of duty. These qualities are not unknown to his subjects, and they cannot fail to deepen their hereditary attachment to his family and his person, which is so remarkable. It may indeed actuate him to deserve and reciprocate it; I doubt not that it will. I shall deem myself very ignorant of character if his Highness does not realise our best anticipations; nay, more, it would be one of the greatest disappointments of my life. Great as are the trials of a prince—the temptations to weakness, the danger of being spoiled by adulation and power—all may be encountered and overcome. On the other hand, if such are the drawbacks of absolute power, its advantages and opportunities are infinite, if benevolence and unselfishness be its guide." These words of commendation were undoubtedly not mere flattery, uttered as they were by a nobleman like Sir James Fergusson, whose independence of character and strict sense of justice are so well known; that they may be taken at their full value. It is only a noble mind that can appreciate similar qualities in others; and the young Maharaja must have felt a glow of enthusiastic pride to hear such language applied to him. In a short and pithy reply, he stated that he intended living up to the motto of "Deeds, not words"; and all who saw his earnest, manly manner, felt that this young ruler gave ample promise of becoming a worthy successor of his illustrious father. In commemoration of his installation, his Highness established a "Destitute Fund" for supporting his indigent subjects.

In April, 1887, at the special request of his Excellency, Lord Reay, his Highness came to England to represent the princes of the Bombay

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Presidency at the Jubilee celebration of the Queen-Empress, and he was then created a Knight Commander of the Indian Empire. During his absence the management of his state was entrusted to his minister Rao Bahadur Motelal Lalbhai.

His Highness the Maharaja is a zealous advocate for the education of women. In addition to a college established in memory of his mother, he has founded several scholarships: one for females attending the Grant Medical College in Bombay, another for females attending the Training College at Rájkot; there are also two other scholarships, for male students, and every possible aid is given, even those desirous of studying in England or America having their expenses defrayed. Special provision is made for encouraging technical studies and developing native talent. Under careful management the land is improving, and fifteen new villages have been built. Bhuj, where the Maharaja resides, is a fine city and well populated; there are numerous large buildings, including the magnificent palace, in Gothic style, erected by the late Maharaja at a cost of Rs. 20,00,000. There are also beautiful gardens. The city is noted for its embroidery and silver lace.

His Highness married, in 1884, two wives, the daughters of the Thakhore of Sayalā, and the heir to the throne, born in 1885, is called Prince Madhubba Sahib. The Rao is entitled to a salute of seventeen guns; he is an ardent sportsman and gymnast, plays badminton and billiards. His palace is elegantly furnished, and filled with works of art from all countries; and, as a ruler, he amply fulfils the high hopes entertained of him. Resolute, but conciliating, he is a born reformer, yet careful not to hurt the feelings of the most sensitive. His tact and gentlemanliness seem to guard him from the errors into which too zealous rulers fall, and also to win for him the profound rev-

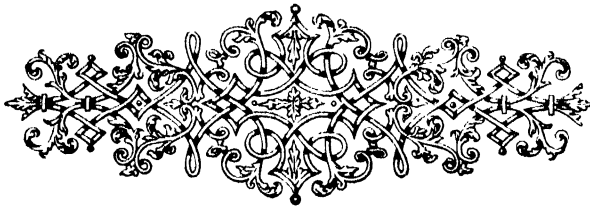
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erence and enthusiastic love of his devoted subjects. The state contains about 880 villages, and is divided into twenty-five districts, each of which, under the Regency, was under the charge of a revenue officer. Nearly all the trade is carried on by sea. There are five sea-ports, the principal one being Mandvi, which boasts of a fine lighthouse, erected in 1873. The vessels, similar in build to a sloop, are good sea-boats, and the Cutch sailors would match our Cornish ones for skill and daring. The country is famous for its fine horses and camels, of which the Rao has large herds. Silks and cotton are manufactured in large quantities.

The Bhayads, of whom there are two hundred, have an aggregate income of £150,000. They are a fine race of men, and the former dissensions between them and the Rao have been settled by the British Government.

There are fifty schools now in the state, with nearly three thousand pupils. The whole administration is good, and the results every year are more and more satisfactory. Peace, Progress, and Reform being the aim of the ruler.







THE LATE REGENT OF KOLHAPUR.

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## KOLHAPUR.

HIS HIGHNESS SHAHU CHHATRAPATI, MAHARAJ RAJA OF KOLHAPUR.



HIS native state is within the British Political Agency of Kolhapur, and is the most important of the numerous states comprised in the southern division of the Bombay Presidency. It is bounded on the north by the river Warna; north-east, by the river Kistna; on the east and south by the district of Belgaun; and on the west by the Sahyadri Mountains, which divides it from Sawantwari on the south-west, and Ratnagiri on the west.

The state has an area of 3,184 square miles, with a population of 800,189, inhabiting 1,091 villages. The revenue amounts to £340,724 per annum. The Raja of Kolhapur has eleven feudatory states, the chiefs of which pay a *nazar* when a new ruler ascends the throne, and also a small annual contribution. The principal of these are Visalgarh, Baura, Kapshi, Kagal, and Inchal Karanji. Three of these chiefs are minors, as is also their suzerain; so the administration of their states, as well as that of Kolhapur, is in the hands of the clever young Dewan, Mr. Merjibhai Kooverji, C.I.E., a Parsi gentleman, assisted by a Council. The aspect of the country is pleasantly diversified, some parts near the Sahyadri range being wild and hilly, in places covered with brushwood, and with deep, romantic valleys that would serve as scenes for the

many legends of its past. Eastwards lie vast but uninteresting cultivated plains, traversed here and there by rivers; the centre of the territory is a mixture of wild, picturesque, and flat cultivated land, being crossed by low hills, which stretch east and west, bearing, perched on their summits, the historic forts of Panhāla, Vishalgarh, Baura, Bhudhargarh, and Rungna, which were once the impregnable homes of the ancient Kolhapur chieftains. The country is watered by eight rivers, but the only lake of importance is the Rankala, situated near the capital. Game is very plentiful, and the rivers abound with fish. The agricultural products include rice, millet, sugar-cane, tobacco, and cotton. Iron ore is found in large quantities, but the cost of labour and transport has hitherto been a bar to its profitable working; there are also several important stone-quarries. The manufactures are hardware, coarse cotton, and woollen cloth.

The Rajas of Kolhapur are descended from Raja Ram, a younger son of Sivaji the Great, who was the founder of the Mahratta power. Raja Ram died in 1700, and his widow placed her son upon the Gadi of Kolhapur; but a few years afterwards his rights were disputed by his brother Sambhaji, who, as Sivaji's elder grandson, claimed the whole of his grandfather's territory, and made Satara his capital. Disputes and enmity continued for several years between these two branches of the family, until in 1731 an arrangement was entered into between them, by which Sambhaji took state precedence, but bound himself to recognise Kolhapur as a distinct and separate principality. In 1760, when the last of Raja Ram's sons died, the direct line of Sivaji became extinct, and a ruler was selected from the Bhonsla family, who ascended the throne under the title of Sivaji II. During the following thirty years piracy prevailed, and increased to such an extent that, in 1765,

and again in 1792, the British Government was compelled to send expeditions against Kolhapur, which eventually resulted in the suppression of piracy, and the payment by the Raja of compensation to the merchants for the losses they had sustained since 1785; further permission was given for the establishment of factories in Malwan and Kolhapur.

For many years the progress and prosperity of the state was retarded and its power weakened by continuous warfare with the neighbouring chiefs, until, in 1811, a treaty was concluded with the British Government, the terms of which were, that the state of Kolhapur was to be protected from attack by foreign Powers, in return for which the Raja was to cede certain districts, and to abstain from hostilities with other states, all disputes being submitted to the arbitration of the British Government.

This arrangement worked well for a time, and in 1817 the Raja assisted the British Government in the war with the Peshwa, and was rewarded by the restoration of the tracts of Chikori and Manori, which had been wrested from him by the Chief of Nipani. The next ruler was Shahaji, a most quarrelsome and profligate ruler; and both in 1822 and 1829 the British Government was compelled to interfere, and to send a force against him, before he could be brought to order. He died in 1838, and a Council of Regency was appointed to carry on the administration during the minority of the Chief Savaji III. The Council did not work well, quarrels continuously occurring between the members; so the British Government nominated a minister of its own to rule the state. His efforts to reform the administration ended in a general rebellion, which extended to the neighbouring state of Sawantwari. After this revolt was suppressed, the forts were all

dismantled, hereditary garrisons abolished, the military force of the state was disbanded, and a local corps formed instead. Another treaty was entered into, in 1862, with Savaji III., by which he bound himself to be guided by the advice of the British Government in all matters of importance. He died in 1866, and on his deathbed—having no heir—he was allowed to adopt a successor; so he chose his sister's son, Raja Ram, who gave every promise of becoming an excellent ruler, but did not live long enough to verify the prediction, as, in 1870, he went on a tour in Europe, and died, on his return-journey, at Florence in the same year, and was succeeded by Sivaji IV., also an adopted son, and a minor. He was placed under the superintendence of Colonel West; but, before his long minority expired, symptoms of insanity were developed, which, in 1882, were proved to be incurable, and to avoid confusion in the state, a Council of Regency was appointed, and the unfortunate Maharaja's cousin, the clever young Chief of Kagal, was selected by Sir James Fergusson as Regent. It seemed as if Kolhapur was fated to be unfortunate in her rulers. Sivaji IV. died childless in 1883; when the eldest son of his Highness, Jaysing Rao Abba Sahib, the then Regent, was chosen by adoption as successor, under the title of Shahu Chhatrapati. Leaving the young prince, who is the present Raja, at the college of Raja Ram, where he was sent to be educated, we will glance at the history of the state during the time of the Regency. His Highness the late Jaysing Rao, Chief of Kagal and Regent of Kolhapur, was descended from a very old and distinguished Mahratta family. He was born in 1857, his mother being a lady of uncommon abilities and high intellectual powers. His early years were spent at the Court of his uncle, the Raja of Kolhapur. At the early age of seven he was married to the daughter

of the Chief of Mudhol, and a few years later he became Chief of Kagal, and was placed under the guardianship of the British Government. He was educated with the late Maharaja, under Colonel West and Mr. Hammick. The young Raja of Kagal, however, showed but little taste for learning, preferring to spend all his time in outdoor pursuits and sports. Mr. Hammick did not attempt to force his pupil to study, preferring by judicious guidance and advice to gently lead him, by fostering his taste for books of sport and travel, until it developed itself into a desire to see something of other countries and states. Accompanied by his tutor he travelled through Northern India, until he attained his majority in 1878, and was entrusted with the management of his principality. So well had the young Raja profited by what he had learned during his travels that in a very few years he became noted as a most able young chief. His little state became a model one, public works were carried on year by year, and every possible scheme for the furtherance of education among his subjects was thought of. His sound common sense, organisation, and energy was soon recognised by the British Government, and he was selected as Regent of the Kolhapur state during the minority of his young son, the present Raja. He was installed in 1882, and quickly made his power felt. The improvements in the state were marvellous. Reform succeeded reform, and Kolhapur, unfortunate in several of her rulers, impoverished and weakened by continuous changes and warfare, was in a fair way of becoming one of the happiest and most prosperous little principalities in India; but *L'homme propose et Dieu dispose*. This satisfactory state of things was not destined to have a long continuance. The Regent longed to extend his travels to England, and



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to study for himself the form of government and commerce which had made that country one of the foremost in the world. The Regent left for England in 1885, and was delighted with his visit. He made many purchases of machinery and implements, and on his return to Kolhapur abolished all duties on trade throughout his territory, and had in contemplation many equally important reforms, which unfortunately he did not live to carry out, dying suddenly on the 20th of March, 1886, only a few weeks after his return from England. His unexpected death caused universal grief; he had so endeared himself, not only to his own people, but also to all Europeans with whom he had come in contact. A noble and enlightened statesman, he had lived to serve his country and people; and his life and administration had drawn the eyes of the Indian Government upon him, and universal sympathy was felt for the young Raja of Kolhapur, to whom his father's guidance and example would have been of inestimable service. Among other good works taken up by the late Regent was the movement for supplying medical aid to the women of India. This important subject had been brought home to him during his visit to England, in a personal interview he had with the Queen; Her Majesty having expressed the deep interest she took in the welfare of his countrywomen. On his return to Kolhapur, he at once took steps to carry out the Queen's wishes, and wrote to engage a lady doctor to teach the native nurses, and to take charge of the female ward in the Albert Edward Hospital at Kolhapur, he himself offering to provide a house and to pay the stipend.

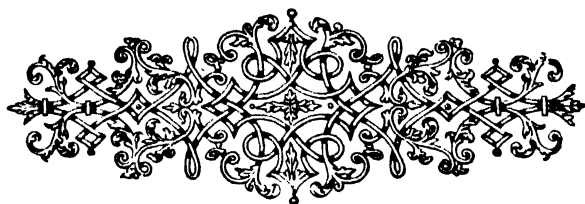
Almost the last words of his Highness were to express a wish that the Raja of Kolhapur should receive an English education that

would fit him for his high position. His wishes are being religiously carried out, and the young Prince, who is now 16 years of age, gives every promise of being a worthy successor of his father, of whom Lord Reay, at a public meeting held in Bombay, said, "I do not think that a more enlightened administrator, or a better man has ever held the reins of power in any state"—a grand eulogium and a noble standard for his Highness Shaker Chhatrapati to aim at. His education has been carefully attended to, a special tutor under the supervision of the assistant Political Agent having had charge of him. His Highness, who is entitled to a salute of nineteen guns, holds a patent authorising adoption, and has power of life and death over his own subjects.

The capital, also called Kolhapur, is situated about 128 miles S. by E. of Poona and 64 miles from Satara, and has a population of 40,000. It is a most picturesque town and a great centre of trade; its streets present a series of kaleidoscopic pictures which for colour and quaintness are unparalleled; throngs of traders and merchants from surrounding districts, each wearing their own distinctive garb, peculiar to the villages they hail from, with their large, brilliant eyes, and dark complexions, make a never-to-be-forgotten scene. Kolhapur can boast of many ancient temples and Buddhist remains. The palace is a fine building, and near it are the treasury and Government offices and a magnificent temple of black stone, most elaborately carved inside and out, its height to the topmost pinnacle being over 80 ft. It dates back to the 12th century, and the style of ornamentation is Jain. The city wall is 30 feet high, and has six massive gateways, to which entrance is given over drawbridges. There are many handsome modern buildings, which add greatly to the beauty

of the capital; but the old buildings, such as the hill forts and castles of Panhala and Pawangadh, within a few miles of the city, are the most interesting. Rx. 44,400 have been spent within the last few years upon the Kolhapur State Railway, which was commenced in 1888, and connects Kolhapur with the Southern Mahratta system of Miraj. Education is also flourishing, over 14,000 children being educated in the 217 schools maintained by the state. There is an agricultural class and a technical school included, and industrial exhibitions are held periodically; also yearly horse and cattle shows, which are very successful.

The majority of the Prince is eagerly looked forward to and great expectations are being entertained of him, with every reasonable hope of their being fulfilled.







HIS HIGHNESS NAWAB SAHEB BAHADUR KHANJI MOHOBAT KHANJI, G.C.I.E.

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## JUNAGADH KATHIAWAR.

HIS HIGHNESS NAWAB SAHEB BAHADUR KHANJI MOHOBAT KHANJI, G.C.I.E.



THE peninsula of Kathiawar is comprised within a political agency, which has under its control one hundred and eighty-eight separate states, fourteen of these pay no tribute, ninety-seven pay tribute to the British Government, seventy-eight to the Gaekwar of Baroda and one hundred and thirty-four to the Nawab of Junagadh. At one time the whole of the peninsula was overrun by outlaws and dacoits, and neither life nor property was safe ; but now, that districts and towns are connected by railways, while good roads make communication between the different states less difficult, violent crime has considerably decreased. Junagadh is one of the first-class states of Kathiawar, and the second in importance. It lies to the south-west of the peninsula, and has an area of about 3,283 square miles, and a population (according to the census of 1881) of 387,499 souls, residing in about eight hundred and fifty-seven villages. The state is divided into twenty maháls, or districts : (1) Uná, (2) Sūtrápátá, (3) Patan, (4) Veráwal, (5) Chorwár, (6) Maheári, (7) Keso, (8) Wanthali, (9) Bálágám, (10) Sil, (11) Mahiári, (12) Kútiánci, (13) Wadál, (14) Nawagúdh-Jetpur, (15) Bhensán, (16) Visáwadar, (17) Bagdei, (18) Mángrol, (19) Ránpúr, and (20) Khadia. Junagadh itself is not included in any Mahál, but is a separate charge. The country is hilly, but diversified by wide-spreading plains,

where rich soil, in some parts, produce as many as three crops a year.

The principal mountains are the Girnár (of which the highest peak, the Goraknath, is 3,666 ft.) the Dátár and the range that runs through the Gir district; there are seven important rivers of which the largest is the Bhadar, and the most historical the Sarasvati, which is famous in the Sacred Annals of the Hindus; besides these rivers there are numerous lakes and reservoirs, one called the Báthrot Tank, near Sil, is noted for its beautiful red and white lotuses, and 10,158 wells. The lion haunts the vast forest of Gir, which is sixty miles long and twenty broad, and covers an area of 1,000 square miles, of which eight hundred are in the Junagadh territory. Large herds of cattle are bred in this forest, in which are also many villages and hamlets. In the capital there are groves of mango trees, and the quince and apple thrive well, while Veráwal is famous for a species of huge onion which is largely exported. The population is composed of Hindus, Mussulmans, and Jains. They are divided by Colonel J. W. Watson into four classes according to their mode of living, as follows :

“No. 1, the upper class, their cooking vessels and eating utensils, etc., are made of copper, brass, and silver, they keep a paid cook as a servant, and their women do not prepare meals. Their food is wheat, rice, ghi, milk, sugar, and fruit. Their houses are their own property; they keep carriages, horses and cattle of their own, and probably possess some land and gardens. Their women dress in silk, with gold embroidery, and wear handsome jewels. The men use the finer cotton fabrics and turbans of silk, or silk and cotton mixed. The second class have their cooking vessels and eating utensils of brass and copper only, their women cook their food, and wear less expensive ornaments.

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Their food is the same, and their houses, though not so large, are generally their own property, but they keep occasionally a horse, a cow, or a buffalo, and some of them may own a small patch of garden-land. Their women dress in cotton fabrics, and the men in the same material, but of a coarser quality than class No. 1. The third class have copper and earthen cooking and eating vessels. Their wives cook and also collect firewood and cow-dung, and spin and grind corn, and also perform labour for hire. Their food is bajri and jowar bread and vegetables. They hire their houses, and own neither land nor gardens. Both men and women wear the coarser kind of cotton fabrics, and common turbans or scarves loosely bound round the head. The fourth class live in huts or under trees. Their wives cook and perform all kinds of labour and menial offices. Their food is jowar, and many of them combine begging with labour. They wear little clothing, and that usually ragged and of the coarsest description, and the women wear ornaments of brass or copper. Some of the men use caps or scarves.

Gujarati is the language of the whole population, with the exception of some of the Muhammadans who speak Urdú, Kachhi, or Sindhi. The best houses are built of stone, brick and mortar, the rest have their walls cemented with mud, and have an outside plaster of mortar, and roofs of thatch or tiles.

The Nawab Saheb of Junagadh is the ruler in the southern portion of Kathiawar, and, indeed, in the whole of the peninsula, over which his armies formerly levied a tax called "zurtulubi" the payment of which was recognised in 1816, and continued to him since 1821, under the guarantee of the British Government, who retain one-fourth for the expenses of collection. The Nawab Saheb is the representative of the Babi (or the trusted) family founded by Bahadur Khan about the year



1636, originally great Sirdars in Afghanistan, they appeared in due course in Indian history as high officials at the Court of the Emperor Humayan, and their services to the Emperors of Delhi, were continuous, conspicuous, and faithful.

About 1735, Sher Khán Bábi, an officer under the Subha of Ahmedabad, expelled the Royal Deputy Governor and establishing his own rule in Junagadh, became the founder of the present ruling dynasty ; he assumed the title of Bahadur Khan and the style of Nawab. Dying in 1758 he was succeeded by his son, Nawab Mohobat Khan, during whose rule intrigue was rife, and the whole of his territory was in a state of anarchy ; he quarrelled with his Dewan Amarji, who was a brave and clever man, but the Nawab, fearing he was getting too powerful, imprisoned and afterward expelled him. Nawab Mohobat Khan died in 1775, after a reign of sixteen years, and his son, Hamid Khan, then a boy of eight years, was placed on the Gadi by Dewan Amarji, who again assumed the administration ; everything he did prospered ; his career was a series of brilliant successes ; but again intriguing courtiers and jealous statesmen poisoned the mind of the young Nawab against his able minister, who was decoyed into the palace of the widow of the late Nawab and brutally murdered, and his relatives imprisoned. The death of Amarji afforded the neighbouring chiefs an opportunity to try and seize some of the Nawab's territory and to become independent. So the Nawab was compelled to solicit the aid of his late Minister's brother and son to extricate him from his difficulties ; as soon as they were restored to power, they recaptured the fort of Verawal, and their conquests and good management greatly benefited the state, only to be rewarded by distrust, which finally ended in imprisonment. Nawab Hamid Khan died in 1811 and was succeeded by his son,

Bahadur Khan, then 18 years of age. During his reign there was a famine followed by a pestilence which caused great mortality. In 1816 the Nawab was forced to seek the help of the British to protect him from his enemies; this was granted, and Captain Ballantyne marched to Junagadh and expelled the refractory nobles, and the Nawab in his gratitude for the timely assistance agreed by a covenant with the East India Company, dated 1817, to waive for ever his right to zurtulubi from both Dhandhuka, Ranpur, Gogha, and Dholera; in 1821 he made another agreement by which he consented "that the English should collect his zurtulubi throughout the province, and retain one-fourth of the amount collected on account of the expense of recovering the same." In the year 1820 the Nawab Saheb Bahadur Khan married a daughter of the Rao of Cutch, but his life and reign were full of turmoil, his soldiers plundered the neighbouring villages and towns, for which the Nawab was forced to give compensation. Another famine occurred in 1825 and hundreds of cattle died.

An important event was the abolishing of the practice of Suttee, which was done by the Nawab all over his territory by the advice of the English. He died in 1840, and the next ruler was his son Nawab Hamid Khan the II., then twelve years of age. He was a very clever and promising youth, attentive to all state matters, and very fond of hunting. His reign saw many important improvements, "the Pinagadi state papers were arranged in order, regular departments of state opened, and when formerly it had been customary to hear complaints verbally, and give verbal orders, in his time it was first ordained, that written petitions should be given in by applicants for redress, and written orders recorded on such petitions," but he did not live long enough to carry out all the reforms he meditated, he died of consumption in 1851,

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at the early age of twenty-three, and was succeeded by his brother. Nawab Sir Mohobat Khan, K.C.S.I., as he was only twelve years of age, the administration was carried on by a Council. At the age of twenty-one, the Nawab assumed full control and married three wives, (1) Kamal Bakhta, daughter of the late Nawab of Radhanpur, and sister of the present Nawab, (2) Sardar Bakhta, daughter of Babi Samal, Khan of Ranpur (3) Laddi Bibi, daughter of Shekh Hasambhai, a resident of Junagadh, and the son of the latter, Bahadur Khanji, was recognised by the government as the heir of the estate and is now the present Nawab. But to return to the early life of the late Nawab, Sir Mohobat Khanji, during his minority, he was to a great extent under the control of his mother, Najû Bibi, and her favourite a woman called Chaitibu, who kept the young prince almost a prisoner in his own palace, until at last he rebelled and secretly sought the assistance of Colonel Barr, then political agent, who sent his assistant, Captain Elliott, to Junagadh to enquire into the matter, but this officer died and was succeeded by Mr. Coulsen, to whom the young Nawab, accompanied by his brother-in-law, Shekh Baha-uddin, fled for protection, and was followed by all the leading nobles of the state who objected to the rule of the queen mother and her favourite. Ultimately, through the tact of Mr. Coulsen, the intriguers were expelled from the palace, and the Nawab returned to Junagadh freed from his mother's interference. In 1870 he attended the Durbar held in Bombay by Sir Seymour Fitzgerald in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh, and again in 1872 and 1874 visited Bombay, on the latter occasion for the purpose of paying his respects to the Prince of Wales. His Highness also attended the Imperial Durbar at Delhi, when his personal salute was increased from eleven to fifteen guns, he travelled, too, through India visiting the

principal towns and places of interest. During his absence the state was efficiently governed by his son Prince Bahadur Khanji. His Highness Nawab Saheb Mohobat Khanji, K.C.S.I., died on the 29th of September, 1882, and was succeeded by his son the present Nawab Saheb Bahadur Khanji, G.C.I.E., who is now thirty-seven years of age. He was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkol, which he joined during its second term, and was a fellow-student of his Highness, the Thakore Saheb of Bhavnagar in 1871. Mr. Chester McNaughten, the principal, gives an interesting account of the college, and the precautions adopted for the safety of his Royal students. The college is a square building, with a large hall in the centre, and the young prince's rooms at each end of the block.

“ These were wild times in Kathiawar, and I remember how every night two bands of armed men marched into our court and took up their station in front of the rooms inhabited by their young student masters, Junaghad and Bhavnagar respectively. We were afraid of these Durbari guards, for they looked as if they might assault one another—strange wild-looking figures, who might have come out of the Middle Ages. We had also armed sentries guarding our cricket-field, because intimation had been received of some plot to carry off one of the young minor chiefs—the present ‘Thakore Saheb of Morvi.’ ” The young Prince left the College in 1863 on his marriage to the daughter of the Bhayad of Drangadra (his one and only wife). He then travelled in India with Colonel Lester for two years, and, upon his return to the state, his father placed the police department under his sole control, which resulted in prompt and efficient reforms in this important branch of the service. This experience, owing to his having been placed in charge of the state during his father's

absence, the better fitted him to become a capable ruler when called to the Gadi. Since the accession of His Highness Nawab Saheb Bahadur Khanji, Junagadh has made rapid strides towards civilisation. Railway and telegraph connect many of the principal towns, justice is improved ; commerce, owing to the wisdom of the Nawab Saheb in prohibiting and discouraging transport dues, is largely increasing ; factories are rising, many new works and buildings springing up, and education, both primary and higher, is advancing steadily ; there is an absence of violent crimes from the report, and outlawry has been summarily suppressed. This satisfactory state of affairs is due to the enlightened policy and enterprise of the ruler, who has most heartily and liberally co-operated in the development of railways throughout the peninsula. His Highness also offered to place certain of his military resources at the disposal of the British Government for enrolment in the Imperial Service Corps and employment on the frontier. His generous offer was highly commended by His Excellency Lord Harris, when in the November of 1890 he visited Rajkot for the purpose of holding a public Durbar, and, by command of the Queen Empress investing His Highness the Nawab Saheb of Junagadh with the insignia of Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. His Excellency also laid the foundation-stone of the principal reservoir of the Victoria Jubilee Waterworks, Rajkot, its cost being a presentation from the Nawab Saheb in addition to his large donation to the Jubilee Fund. The reservoir is called the "Bahadur Khanji Reservoir," and has over the centre a bronze statue of Her Majesty the Queen Empress, and the front has three marble tablets, on two of which are inscribed in English and Gujarati the name and date of the waterworks, and on the third the name of the donor with the circumstances of his gift. His Highness was one of the

princes who entertained Prince Albert Victor when the latter visited India in 1889, and in commemoration of which event a leper asylum has been erected in Junagadh city.

It would be difficult to enumerate half the public works, charities, and the liberal donations and contributions which have been made to ameliorate the condition of suffering humanity both in and out of Kathiawar by His Highness the late Nawab Saheb Mohobat Khanji, K.C.S.I., and his son the present Nawab Saheb, but the grand total is 89, 38, 413 rupees, of which Rs.93,761 were contributed towards the relief during the last famine; and assistance to the wounded and maimed soldiers, and the widows and children of the Sepoys killed during the Afghan, Turkish, and Egyptian wars. Rs.5,260 were given towards the deputation sent to England to represent the princes of Kathiawar at the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen Empress.

A little space must be devoted to a description of the beautiful city of Junagadh. This ancient and most picturesque town is situated at the foot of the sacred Mount of Girnas, which is covered with monuments of the Jain religion in the shape of ruined temples. Here also can be descried a remnant of the old palace of the Chudasamas, the former rulers of Junagadh, whose founder Chudachandr, a Rajput, flourished from 875 to 907 A.D., and whom the bards exalt as follows :—

“ As Shri Chandrachuda (Shiva) places the moon on his head,  
So Rajas of the best blood have considered Chudachandra as their head ;  
May this race of his, distinguished in all courts, be victorious.”

To the west of Junagadh are the ruins of Balabhipura, and here there are inscribed on the rocks in the Pali language the edicts of King Ashoka, who lived in the third century B.C. Mr. Jalbhoy in the “Portrait Gallery of Western India” says that King Ashoka

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in the early part of his reign bore the character of an intolerant and tyrannical ruler, and in four years conquered the whole of Northern India. He afterwards embraced Buddhism, and was afterwards known as the "Pious Ashoka." He carried the same fiery energy into his new faith, and in a few years compelled the whole of Northern India to adopt his Buddhistic view. He erected a great number of monasteries, and issued edicts which he engraved on massive rocks and stone pillars, those existing in Girnar being amongst the oldest of them. Some of these edicts are worth quoting as they prove how far in civilisation and enlightenment the Buddhists were advanced before Christianity was ever founded. "(1) Prohibiting the slaughter of animals for food or sacrifice. (2) Providing medical aid throughout his kingdom. (3) Enjoins a quinquennial humiliation. (7) Contains the King's desire for one universal faith. (8) Enjoins visits to holy people, respect to elder's almsgiving. (10) Comments on the glory of renown founded on the vain, transitory deeds of the world, and the higher objects of life." Adding to these wise edicts the fact that Buddhism has never been the cause of bloodshed it stands alone as the most ancient and purest religion in the world, and Christians can afford to admire the earnest followers of so noble a faith.

The old fortress or citadel of Junagadh dates back to at least two hundred and seventy years B.C. The walls which surround it are seventy feet high, and the old gateways are interesting as specimens of ancient architecture. Inside the citadel or Uparkot—which is said to have been ancient Junagadh—are several Buddhist caves, which originally were two or three stories high and used as monasteries. There are also some old wells, one having a wonderful circular staircase inside; these are said to have been built by slave girls belong-

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ing to the Chudasama Rulers of ancient times. Close by is a mosque, and outside it a cannon left by the Turks at Dir, and from there brought to Junagadh by order of Sultan Bahadur Shah. It is



VAZIR BAHĀ-UD-DĪN.

called "Selain Top," and measures seventeen feet by seven and half feet in circumference. This old historic citadel has many times been besieged and often taken; the first invasion of which there is authentic



particulars being in 1350 A.D., and the last in 1592. The fortifications of the city were built by Sultan Mahmud Begadha of Guzerat in 1472, but leaving the older parts. Inside the city are numerous fine modern public buildings, such as the hospital and the fine central jail, the latter a magnificent building which has cost the state about one lakh and 50,000 rupees. It has accommodation for from five hundred to six hundred prisoners; and is admirably managed. Besides the work of ordinary labourers and artisans, some of the prisoners are instructed in different kinds of weaving, and the productions turned out, in the form of carpets, pati (for cots), gold and silver embroideries, towels, &c., are really admirable. The palace is a fine building, and the Nobles of the Court have built themselves beautiful mansions, the finest of which are the house of the late Minister Jamadar Saleh Hinde, C.I.E., and the residence of the Nawab Sahib's uncle, Shekh Baha-ud-din Vazir. A number of shops and a clock-tower occupy the space in front of the palace. Another new building is a guest house lately completed for natives and officials of rank.

"The Paddock," which has cost Rs.201,000 for breeding and rearing horses is under the superintendence of a Junagadhi graduate of the Bombay Veterinary College. The High School, which cost a lakh of rupees, has three hundred pupils, and the Mohobat Madressa—opened for the education of the Muhammadan classes—Rs.75,000. Another remarkable edifice—designed and constructed by native artists—is the mausoleum of His Highness the late Nawab Saheb. A new town has lately risen outside Jetpur, called Nawadgadh, and a cotton mill is in course of erection there through the enterprise of a Bombay merchant. An indigo factory has been opened about three miles from Junagadh, and the product is annually improving in both quality and quantity.

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The Jetalsar Verawal Railway is about sixty-seven miles in length, and runs almost throughout His Highness' territory ; it was constructed by the state at a cost of thirty-seven lakhs of rupees. The opening of this railway has greatly increased trade at the port of Verawal. There are quarries in the vicinity of Junagadh that supply an abundance of stone, which is conveyed by a small railway two and half miles in length from the mouths of the quarries to the Junagadh Station. A very important and beneficial reform accomplished by the present enlightened ruler was the abolition of the system of farming out of revenues. In former times whole Mahals were farmed, even by some of the leading officers of the state, who paid a certain amount to the state as revenue of the Mahal, and as their object was to gain considerably by the transaction, they used all their efforts to collect as much as possible from the poor cultivators, the result being a considerable loss to the state, and misery to the oppressed, whose condition has greatly improved under the new system ; which resulted in a considerable augmentation of revenue. There were several joint villages between Junagadh and Mangrol—one of its subordinate Talukas—and a commission was appointed in 1886 to enquire into the rights and interests of the two powers, the result being that Mangrol had the sole proprietary right over twenty-one villages in full settlement of its claims ; while the civil and criminal jurisdiction over all was given to the Junagadh state. The generosity of his Highness the Nawab Saheb in this partition of interests has been recognised by the Government. Another instance of His Highness's wise and conciliative policy is shown in his treatment of the Maiyas, a class of people who opposed the legitimate demands of the state officers, which ultimately led to a struggle and their defeat. The debt they owed

the state annually increased, and their property was sequestered, and still they refused to come to terms. However, they finally submitted to his Highness, and he nobly excused the large sum in arrears, and their annual tribute was amicably exchanged for a portion of their land, thus for ever putting an end to the dispute. The judicial department of the state is now placed on a sound basis by the adoption of salutary measures of reforms; new blood has been added to the staff by the appointment of trained officers and the opening of an examination for the Munsiffs with a view to test their abilities.

"A good master makes good servants," and an enlightened noble ruler has many followers. One of the finest nobles of the state of Junagadh is Vazir Baha-ud-din, the uncle of the Prince, and a descendant of the great house of Shaik among the Muhammadans. He was born in Junagadh in 1835, and belongs to the Sooni sect of his community. He is thoroughly conversant with Urda, Gujarati, and English, and his only sister was married to the late Nawab Mohobat Khanji. He has been for over half a century the trusted adviser of the rulers of Junagadh, and has by his services to the state, as well as by his unostentatious but splendid and well directed beneficence, gained the sincere regard of his masters and the confidence of all political officers who have had occasion to know him.

It was Vazir Baha-ud-din who settled the disputes between the late ruler and his mother, who established the Nawab's authority, and who, for services when the Nawab was harassed by his mother's interference, was raised to the post of Prime Minister. He was called "The Most Faithful and Bold Son," and two large and important villages were presented to him, as well as an allowance for a state palanquin, umbrella, and torch-bearer. He was successful in arresting—at great personal

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risk and danger—the notorious highwayman, Jugla, who was the terror of the whole state, and who was ultimately tried and blown up at the cannon's mouth. The Vazir has been most active in introducing and promoting municipal and educational reforms. He gave 150,000 crores for the erection of a spacious building containing lodging and boarding accommodation for a Mohobat Madrasah for the education of Muhammadan youths. It requires great tact, courage, and wisdom to venture to introduce reforms among subjects so prone to listless inactivity and so constitutionally averse to changes—even for the better—as are for the most part the people of India; but the Vazir Baha-ud-din by his indefatigable efforts and force of example has accomplished great things: he voluntarily gave up lucrative farms, in order to set the example of supporting an administrative reform, which had for its object, as has been stated, the abolishing of the pernicious system of farming out districts and villages, and although by this act he forfeited a large income, he did not decrease his liberality. About this time he spent about two lakhs of rupees to promote works of public charity. No finer eulogy on a Prince and his Minister can be quoted than a part of Lord Reay's speech of December 14th, 1886: "I am very much touched to see how his Highness and his uncle Baha-ud-din vie with each other in commemorating the memory of their departed father and brother. I have much pleasure in recording what your Vazir Baha-ud-din has done in the way of public generosity. I find that he has spent in the construction of new tanks and wells, Rs.13,000; in buildings, Rs.50,000; on education no less than Rs.20,000; for medical relief to wounded soldiers in the Russo-Turkish and Afghan wars Rs.7,000; and the Madrasah has alone cost Rs.28,000; and in the Mohobat Fellowship Ahmedabad he has invested Rs.30,000. I have to thank your Highness and your

uncle in the name of your subjects for what you have done." His Highness the Saheb Nawab is a handsome man with very brilliant eyes, full of enthusiastic schemes for reform and the improvement of his state ; and fortunate in having the assistance of his uncle whose liberality and largeness of heart and principles are more fully proved day by day. For thirty years his life furnishes a continuous record of eminent services to the state and its ruler, of great praiseworthy sacrifice of his own private interests, and of splendid and useful beneficence towards his fellow subjects, and even others with whom he is not connected except by the ties of ordinary humanity. The Vazir Baha-ud-din is a handsome middle-aged man of refined and genial manners, high intellectual ability and artistic tastes ; his house is beautifully decorated, and he has a fine zoological collection. The liberal scholarship allowed to the Junagadh students prosecuting their studies in the various colleges of art and science in Bombay, Poona, and Ahmedabad, and the public scholarship awarded to students who proceed to England to qualify themselves for the bar and the medical profession through the liberality of their noble Prince ought not to go unmentioned.

To relate the hundreds of interesting legends and to describe all the places of interest in the state would need volumes. Every village is full of historical and interesting remains, and their legendary lore would furnish abundant material for innumerable stories that would delight English readers, the more so as the poetry may be said to resemble in rhythm and cadence the wild grand Scandinavian songs. There is not probably a less known or more noteworthy state in the whole of India ; nor at the present day a kingdom which is better governed.

His Highness Nawab Saheb Bahadur Khanji Mohobat Khanji, G.C.I.E., died in 1892 and was succeeded by his brother, His Highness

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Nawab Saheb Rasulkhanji, who was installed on the Gadi on the 21st of June in the same year. His Highness is thirty-four years of age, and is carrying on the work of administration on the same lines as the late ruler. His eldest son and heir to the throne is called Sahebzada Sher Juma Khan, he is a youth of great promise, and is being educated at the Rajkumar College.



HIS HIGHNESS NAWAB SIR TAKHTSINGJI, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF BHAVNAGAR, KATHIAWAR.

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## BHAVNAGAR.

HIS HIGHNESS NAWAB SIR TAKHTSINGJI, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF  
BHAVNAGAR, KATHIAWAR.



BHAVNAGAR is a first-class native tributary state within the British Agency of Kathiawár, in the Province of Guzerat, in the Presidency of Bombay. Its area is 2,860 square miles, the population 40,323 souls, mostly Hindus, and the revenue is about £300,000. There are 542 villages in the state, which is considered to be the most progressive in Kathiawár; and His Highness, indeed, can claim that he was the pioneer of railways in the Peninsula, as about twelve years ago the Bhavnagar-Gondal State Railway, which cost nearly ninety-five lakhs of rupees, was completed. A novel feature about this railway is, that it was constructed and is worked by the joint co-operation of four different states. In addition to this great undertaking, excellent roads have been made. The state has five seaports, and a steamer, called the *Bhavnagar*, plies between the capital—which is also a port—and Bombay and Surat. The principal products are grain and cotton, the latter being very largely grown, about £1,500,000 worth of raw cotton being yearly shipped from Bhavnagar town to Bombay. An additional impetus was given to trade by the abolition of tolls, and reduction of customs duties. The state maintains a force of 2,765 men.



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The founder of the ruling house of Bhavnagar was Sejakji, chief of a tribe of Gohel Rajputs, who settled in the country about 1200 A.D. Sejakji had three sons, Ranoji, Sarunji, and Shahji, who eventually became the heads of the ruling families of Bhavnagar, Lathi, and Palitana. Bhavsiji, the twentieth in descent from Sejakji, built the town and port of Bhavnagar in 1723, and made it his capital. He reigned for over sixty years, during which long period he laboured unceasingly to increase his territory and to improve trade. The favourable position of his capital enabled him to guard against invasions by neighbouring ambitious chiefs, whose only creed in those days was the "right of might." It also afforded him the means of easily exporting the products of the country. The policy of this sagacious ruler was followed by his son and grandson, who successively became rulers, until the state rose to the foremost rank in the province. These chiefs also gave valuable aid to the British in suppressing piracy, and gained for themselves several districts. Wakhatsinji, the grandson of Bhavsiji, was a very remarkable monarch, and by his enterprise and ability raised the state into a very important position as a commercial centre, but, owing to the harsh punishment meted out to some refugees, the British Government deprived the chief of the civil and criminal jurisdiction over 116 villages in his state. Thakur Wakhatsinji died in 1816. The next rulers were Vayesinji and Akheragji, during whose chieftaincy, nothing of great importance occurred. The next to succeed to power was His Highness Sir Jaswant Singji, the father of the present ruler. During his reign and through the intercession of the Dewan and the late Mr. Merwaji Bhownuggree, a greatly-esteemed and well-known Bombay Parsee, the British Government was induced to restore to the Bhavnagar state

the civil and criminal jurisdiction over 116 villages which had been sequestered. At this time, the Maharaja gave up the right of coining money in his own mint. The late ruler was a clever and enlightened man, and always loyal to the British Government. He nobly came forward to offer assistance during the time of the Mutiny of 1857, and gave valuable aid in transporting the English troops to Ahmedabad. He was the first of the Káthiawár chiefs to receive the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Star of India, with which he was invested in 1886.

The improvements he effected in his state were numerous. Fine public buildings, such as a hospital, school, and dispensary, were erected; roads were laid out, a Municipal Council formed, and a state gazette published. This noble chief died in 1871, at the age of forty-three, leaving two sons, the eldest of whom, His Highness Takhtsingji, the present ruler, then only thirteen years of age, succeeded him. During his minority, the state was placed under the joint management of a British officer and the Dewan.

The young Prince, who was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkote, where he gained several prizes, was a diligent and thoughtful youth, and made good progress in English and Gujarati. In 1877 his Highness attended a Durbar held at Delhi, where he was presented with a beautiful banner and gold medal by the Viceroy, in the name of the Empress of India, and his salute was raised from eleven to fifteen guns. In the following year (1878), on the 5th of April, he was installed on the Gadi and invested with full power. The ceremony was an imposing one, and the young Prince gave every indication that he was well fitted for the exalted position to which he had succeeded. The speech delivered by the Political Agent, Mr.

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J. B. Peile, C.S.I., at the installation was a remarkable one, and the young Prince paid the most earnest attention to it, and replied in a manly and thoughtful manner, promising to his utmost to secure the welfare and prosperity of his subjects. When the Maharaja took up the reins of government the state coffers were full, and there was no debt; a praiseworthy state of affairs which has been maintained to the present time, under the enlightened sway of the ruling chief. Large sums of money have been judiciously spent upon public works, and in the furtherance of education, in which direction his Highness is an ardent reformer, having broken through many trammels which custom and his ancient lineage had imposed upon him. Almost the first public work undertaken by the Maharaja was a beautiful bridge over the river Aji at Rajkote, at a cost of Rs. 114,000. The next was the State Railway, which was opened in December, 1880, by Sir James Fergusson, the Governor of Bombay. The immense service which his Highness conferred upon the country by carrying to a successful issue this gigantic and costly undertaking was recognised by the British Government, and the Maharaja received the distinction of a Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. The unbounded improvements which have been effected in the state may be judged by the fact that in eight years the large amount of Rs. 53,80,000 was expended on public works, exclusive of the outlay on the railways. A fine palace has lately been built, as also courts of justice, a high school, the Sir Takhtsingji Hospital, in memory of the late Maharaja, a foundling hospital and a clock tower, with two large and conveniently-arranged fruit and vegetable markets. The Samaldar Art Collège is a new institution, built in Bhavnagar City, in honour

of the memory of the late Dewan, Mr. Samaldar Parmanandar. The Maharaja also contributed the sum of Rs. 100,000 towards building a new wing to the Rajkumar College, where his Highness was educated. The parks and public gardens must not be forgotten, nor the fine lake that was laid out for the purpose of supplying the city with water.

Not in India alone is the Maharaja noted for his generous liberality, for he gave the magnificent sum of £10,000 towards the Northbrook Indian Club, and the Imperial Institute, with which the club has recently been amalgamated, has received much help from his Highness's munificence.

The Maharaja, in accordance with Rajput

customs, married four wives, and has several children. The eldest son and heir, who is called Bhavsingji, is now about seventeen.



M. M. BHOWNAGGEE, ESQ., C.I.E.

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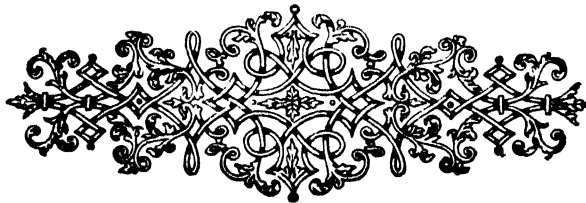
As a social reformer the Prince deserves special commendation ; he encourages the education of women by every means that a large fortune and generous, enlightened mind can devise, and, knowing that example is stronger than precept, sends his own daughters to be educated with those of his subjects. Every administrative measure for the good of the state was encouraged by the late Dewan, Mr. Samaldar Parmanandar, and also by his son and present Minister, Mr. Vithaldas. When the Maharaja established a Council of Administration in 1887, and thus gave his subjects a constitutional government, Mr. Mancherjee Merwanjee Bhownaggee, C.I.E., Barrister-at-Law, Justice of the Peace, Bombay, and Fellow of the University of Bombay, was entrusted by His Highness with the re-modelling of the judicial and police departments, so they are now based on a system similar to the British. Mr. Bhownaggee has often represented his Highness, the Maharaja, in England, where he is as well known in society, as he is highly appreciated, being a cultured and refined gentleman, of most kindly and sympathetic manners.

Some two years ago a most shameful and libellous attack was made upon the Maharaja and his Ministers in scurrilous pamphlets, which were circulated in England as well as India with the object of extorting money. It was doubtless hoped that the chief would prefer to pay hush-money rather than face the unpleasantness of a public enquiry. Since, too, the Maharaja had come into power many abuses had been firmly put down, and a new administration formed. Hence the jealousy of disappointed office-seekers and of others who would have liked to have enriched themselves at the expense of the state. Their chagrin found vent in calumniating the Prince and his Ministers, under whose wise and enlightened rule avarice and greed found no opening. The Maharaja

foresaw that prosecution of these slanderers would involve sacrifices in every direction, yet determined to face publicity, and promptly acceded to the wish of his Ministers that they should institute proceedings, and not only that, but also promised to afford every help. He gave the officials who were attacked *carte blanche* as to expenses, placed at their disposal evidence and proofs to establish their cases, and further volunteered to give evidence himself, and also to allow the members of his family and household to do the same. It is not difficult to imagine how much annoyance the circulating of the disgraceful libels, under the plea of "being for the public good," had caused the Maharaja and his faithful subjects, and how much more unpleasant would be a public prosecution; but the result atoned for the vexation, inasmuch as, when the trial was over, the Maharaja was lauded by His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, who, at a Durbar held in Káthiáwár, said to the princes and chiefs assembled: "Depend upon this, your Highnesses, that if you have reason to be grateful to his Highness the Thakore of Bhavnagar for his public spirit in exposing this malicious intrigue, if every man in the public service has reason to be grateful to him for his fearlessness to face a court of justice, depend upon it there is no institution so grateful as that part of the public Press—and it is by far the larger and more important part—which recognises that its own position and popularity rest upon an honest and undoubtedly fearless—fearless because it is honest—impartial and fair criticism, which is the peculiarity, and also the power, of the Press, which, if fairly weighed, is the pride of the present age." The jury, in returning their verdict of "Guilty" against the prisoners, added this rider: "We don't believe a word of the evidence given against the Maharaja," an opinion which Mr. Justice Farren emphasised by immediately saying, "Nobody in the world could believe that evidence."

“ A more unmistakable vindication of the character and acts of any man, prince or peasant, could not be desired from a tribunal of justice.” That the Maharaja is now more revered than ever by his subjects may well be imagined. His whole career, from the time he started life as a student in the Rajkumar College, where he was the first pupil, down to the present day has been blameless. His state is acknowledged to be a model one. Every year sees some improvement effected, trade is increasing rapidly, less and less distress among his fortunate subjects; the youth of the country are being educated and trained in the best possible manner, and at the cost of the state; the whole of the revenue is devoted to the public and universal good, and the Maharaja's life is influenced by the feeling that *noblesse oblige*, which is making his name and character as well known and as much admired in England as it is in his own country; and amongst the many young and promising princes who are now ruling native states in India, none are more likely to play a prominent part in the future history of the empire than the enlightened chieftain of the kingdom of Bhavnagar.

His Highness, attended by several of his Ministers, came over to England for the opening of the Imperial Institute.









HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SIR MANSINGJI, K.C.S.I., RAJ SAHEB OF DHRANGADRA.

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## DHRANGADRA.

HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SIR MANSINGJI, K.C.S.I.,  
RAJ SAHEB OF DHRANGADRA.



THE native state of Dhrangadra is within the political agency of Kathiawar, in the province of Guzerat, Bombay. It takes rank as once of the first-class states of Kathiawar, and covers an area of 1,157 square miles ; contains 125 small towns and villages, the population of which number nearly 100,000 souls ; the revenue amounts to over, £30,000 out of which the sum of £4,467 is paid yearly as tribute to the British Government and the Nawab of Junagadh. The country is mostly flat, the ground stony, and soil poor, although in some parts there are small tracts of rich black loam. The chief products are wheat and cotton, but prior to 1877 the principal sources of revenue were the state salt pans.

For administrative purposes the state is divided into four mahals, or sub-divisions. The most important towns are Dhrangadra, the capital ; and Halwad, noted for its sandstone quarries.

The founder of the dynasty was a great warrior called Hurpal Devji, who upon the death of his father in battle fled from his own country, Sind, and took refuge in Patan Gugarah, where in return for great

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services which he rendered to its ruler, he was rewarded with the sovereignty of 1,800 villages, which afterwards became known as the state Jhallawar, the capital of which was first Patri ; afterwards it was transferred to Halwad ; and in 1782, the seat of government was finally removed to Dhrangadra, where it has since remained. The twenty-second ruler from Hurpal was Mansingji, who conquered the Governor of Ahmedabad, but generously saved his life upon the condition that the territory of Jhallawar, which about ten years previously had been seized by this same governor, should be restored to him. This was done ; and in addition to the land, Mansingji received the title of Maharaja in recognition of his military prowess and skill. Mansingji's successor was Rajsingji, also a noted ruler and warrior. After him followed five others, who did not in any way specially distinguish themselves ; they succeeded in keeping the territory their predecessors by their bravery had won, without becoming themselves famous for either administrative or military skill. The sixth ruler from Rajsingji was Rajoji, during whose reign the Fort of Dhrangadra was built. Gujishji followed, and he was the last ruler whose dominion extended over the whole province of Jhallawar, for after his death it was divided into seventeen or eighteen small independent states, among which are Limri, Wadhwan, Chura, Sayla, and Than-Lakhtar. The three princes who followed Gujishji were not of any great importance, and the fourth was his Highness Ranmalsingji, who came to the throne in 1843, at the age of thirty-two. He was one of the most distinguished princes of the day ; he reigned for twenty-six years, and his state under his wise but firm administration rose to distinction ; he freed it from debt, in which it was involved at the time of his accession, he developed to the utmost all the resources of the country, and established a new code of laws. His

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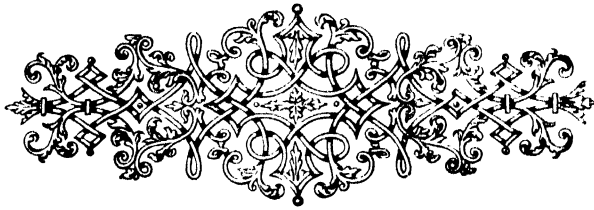
Highness Ranmalsingji was also an accomplished scholar, the author of several valuable works, and conversant with the Sanscrit, Persian, Urdu, and Gujarati languages and literature. His fame as a wise and beneficent ruler spread all over the peninsula, and he was also greatly commended by the British Government, who in recognition of his merit, and also of his loyalty, conferred upon him in 1866 the dignity of Knight Commander of the Star of India. His Highness died in 1869, leaving four sons, the eldest of whom, his Highness Maharaja Sir Mansingji, K.C.S.I., is the present ruler, now in his fifty-third year. His Highness is a Hindu of the Rajput caste, and the Jhala tribe; ever since his accession he has carried on the administration upon the same lines as established by his distinguished father, whose administrative powers, wisdom, and loyalty he has inherited, as well as the former ruler's success of winning the confidence and love of his subjects. His Highness keeps pace with the times, and is determined his state shall occupy a prominent position, as far as modern requirements and advantages can place it. There are about forty-two schools in the state, including English and vernacular. The capital is a strongly fortified town, built on the banks of the River Foolroo, with a population of over 12,000 persons; there is a fine school for girls, a public library, clock-tower, and a magnificent hospital called after the Prince of Wales. and built in commemoration of his Royal Highness's visit to Bombay in 1875; but it is not the capital alone that benefits by his Highness the Raj Saheb's liberality, for the state throughout is well provided with guest houses and new roads, as well as with dispensaries for the poor. He also contributes liberally to every good work outside his own state, and with such names as their Highnesses the Maharaja of Bhavnagar, the Nawab of Junagahd, and the Raj Saheb of Dhrangadra, the future

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greatness of Kathiawar is assured, and her chiefs are second to none for social progress and development. They have nobly come forward, and admirably co-operated with money and all that was necessary to provide railways, harbours, and roads throughout the province, and the improvements carried out during the last twenty years are almost incredible. His Highness is also like his father, fond of intellectual pursuits, and is the author of several Urdu and Hindustani works. The military force of the state consists of 470 men, of whom the Raj Saheb's brother is the commander; another brother is at the head of the civil government. At the imperial assemblage held at Delhi in 1877, his Highness was created a Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, and his salute was raised from eleven to fifteen guns. The Raj Saheb has a fine stately presence, and his manners are genial and affable; he had one son, Jusbuntsengji, who died in 1879, at the age of twenty-five, and leaving in turn one son, who is now in his twenty-third year, and the heir-apparent to the throne. His Highness holds no sanad authorising adoption, but the succession follows the rule of *primogeniture*. The chief has power of life and death over his own subjects. The principal manufactures are salt, copper and brass vessels, stone hand-mills, cloth, and pottery. The city of Dhrangadra has several very fine buildings, notably the palace, a large and beautiful lake has been lately excavated, the streets have been widened and improved, and the whole place bears the impress of prosperity. The town is noted for its stone quarries of variegated colours; sandstone is plentiful throughout the state, and is used largely in the province for building purposes.

The people are happy under their present efficient ruler; all the departments of state have been reorganised, trade is improving, and education advancing; the condition of the lower orders bears a strong contrast

to that of some fifteen or twenty years ago, and the want and distress which occurred after the bad seasons in the past would be an impossibility under the present *régime*. The material and moral progress of the native states reflects great honour upon the enlightened policy of their princes, and also must be a matter of congratulation to the British Government, to whose influence it is undoubtedly traceable.





HIS HIGHNESS WHAGJI, K.C.I.E., THAKORE SAHEB OF MORVI.

## MORVI.

HIS HIGHNESS WHAGJI, K.C.I.E., THAKORE SAHEB OF MORVI.



FIRST-CLASS native state within the Political Agency of Kathiawar, in the Province of Guzerat, Bombay, Morvi covers an area of 822 square miles, has a population (according to the census of 1881) of 89,964, and a revenue of £77,848, out of which a yearly tribute of £5,847 is paid jointly to the British Government and the Gaekwar of Baroda. The state—which comprises 125 villages—is divided into four Mahals, or revenue sub-divisions, each having its own courts of justice and dispensary. The country is not particularly picturesque, being mostly flat, but the climate is fairly good, especially near the coast. Abundance of water is easily obtained from the numerous wells and tanks. The principal products are cotton, grain, and sugar-cane; the manufactures being salt and coarse cloth. Land communication is kept up by means of carts and pack-bullocks, but during the minority of the present ruler, and also since his accession, communication has been rendered more easy by the new and improved roads which have been laid out, but more especially by the building of a tram-line—the first in Kathiawar—between the Wadhwan and Morvi states; it is about 700 miles in length, and is known as the Morvi State Tramway Line.

The history of Morvi is closely interwoven with that of Cutch; for



when Jam Raval brutally murdered the chief of Cutch and usurped his throne, the four sons of the latter, fearing to share their father's fate, fled to Ahmedabad, and one of them, named Khengar, distinguished himself by his bravery, and, having saved the life of the King of Ahmedabad in a lion hunt, received as a reward for his services the title of Rao, and the principality of Morvi was settled upon him. Khengar, after firmly establishing himself in his little kingdom, determined to regain possession of Cutch, and, after fourteen years of continuous warfare, he succeeded in wresting his ancestral state from the power of the usurper, and obtaining possession of the throne of Cutch. He then transferred his administrative headquarters to Bhuj, and, discarding the old title of Jam, proclaimed himself Rao, which title has ever since been retained by the ruling chiefs of Cutch. Morvi, instead of being a small independent state, became a district in the Cutch province, and remained so for six generations, until Rangji, a son of the fifth ruler from Khengar, was made its sovereign by his father as a reward for services rendered in war. Rangji was murdered by his brother Pragji, who took possession of the throne of Cutch, but was afterwards defeated and made prisoner by Kaioji, Rangji's son. Kaioji afterwards released him, and entered into an amicable treaty with him, by which it was agreed that Pragji should be re-instated as Rao of Cutch, conditionally upon his allowing Kaioji to remain in undisturbed possession of the little states of Morvi and Wadhwan. This same Thakur Kaioji was the founder of the present ruling family of Morvi. The next chiefs of any note were: Aliaji, a brave soldier; Ravoji, who fortified Morvi city; Jeeaji, a good ruler, and friendly with the English, and Ravoji, the late respected Thakore, an exceedingly clever and enlightened chief, who raised Morvi to a high position of

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commercial prosperity, re-organised every department in the state, and suppressed the practice of infanticide. The treasury became full, important reforms took place in the judicial, military, and revenue departments, and commerce was encouraged. These changes made the population happy and prosperous, and famine and want seemed banished for ever. Thakore Ravoji reigned for twenty-six years, and was succeeded by his youngest son, Thakore Whagji, the present ruler, who was a minor, so the state was placed under the joint administration of the former Minister of State and a British officer.

His Highness Thakur Sahib Whagji was born in 1858, and is a Hindu of the Jareja Rajput caste, and claims descent from the Cutch line. The young prince was educated at Rajkumar College, under the experienced eye of Mr. Chester Macnaughten, the principal. During the six years he remained at the college, the progress he made in his studies was very satisfactory, and he won the regard both of the professors and his princely fellow-students. Those were lawless and turbulent times, and present a vivid contrast to the present, when order and peace prevail everywhere. During his Highness's college career soldiers guarded the college corridors every night, and armed sentries stood round the cricket-field, because an intimation had been received that an attempt would be made to carry off the young chief of Morvi. The careful training which the young princes of Western India have received at this college has already borne good fruit ; they feel that, as the world progresses, so must they also move onwards. In most cases they have kept up in after life the feeling of good fellowship which existed between them during their career as students. A friendly rivalry, as to whose state shall be the most progressive and best governed, has been the grand motive power which has brought about

the improvements and prosperity which almost universally exists in their states. The railways and roads, which are bringing kingdoms into communication one with another, are also the strongest safeguard against dacoity and violence, while agricultural and industrial progress prevent distress among the poorer classes, and enables the state to expend large sums on public works. His Highness the Thakore Saheb came of age in the January of 1879, and was then invested with full powers. His Highness was fortunate in finding that during his minority his state had been most effectively governed. His treasury was full, although large amounts had been expended in building court-houses, jails, and other necessary public buildings; several new roads had been laid out, and provision made for giving free medical aid to the poorer classes. The good work thus started has been carried on most energetically by the Thakur Sahib, whose first act on coming into power was feeding, for three weeks, at his own expense, 3,000 people who were sufferers from the famine at Poona. In addition to this, he spent 28,000 rupees in relieving his own subjects at Morvi. Large sums have been judiciously spent in public works. His Highness, in 1883, visited England and other European countries, being at that time the first Kathiawar ruler who had paid a visit to this country. The Thakore Saheb possesses a small sub-division in Cutch, with a port at Tangli, which has been the cause of many disputes with the Rao of Cutch, but now that has been provisionally arranged. The same engagement has been entered into with the British Government and Morvi as exists between all the other states of Kathiawar. The chief has power of life and death over his own subjects, and is entitled to a personal salute of eleven guns and a guard of honour. He maintains a military force of 386 men.

Morvi, the capital city, is situated on the banks of the river Machoo, and has of late years been greatly beautified. A handsome bridge has been built at a cost of 4,000,000 rupees, the streets widened and lit with electric light ; it has also a beautiful public park, and a fine clock-tower. There are about thirty-three schools in the state, and every year the attendance of pupils is increasing ; they now average 1,500.





HIS HIGHNESS SIR BHAGVAT SINHI, K.C.I.E., LL.D., D.C.L., THAKORE SAHIB OF GONDAL.

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## GONDAL.

HIS HIGHNESS SIR BHAGVAT SINHJI, K.C.I.E., LL.D., D.C.L., THAKORE SAHEB  
OF GONDAL.



IS Highness Sir Bhagvat Sinhji, the present ruler of Gondal—a first-class native state situated very nearly in the centre of the historic province of Saurashtra in Western India—is a Jareja Rajput by descent, and as such belongs to the Lunar dynasty, which traces its origin to the renowned Krishna. After the great destruction which is said to have befallen this race at Verawal-Pátan about 5,300 years ago, the survivors established themselves in Sindh, whence they migrated into Cutch, which country they took possession of by force. After some time a member of their family settled at Hálár in Kathiawar, and assumed the name of Jam. The place which he fixed on as his residence is now known as Jamnagar, or the city of Jam. As the members of the family increased they separated and established independent kingdoms, such as Gondal, Dhrol, Rajkot, &c. The founder of the Gondal house was Kambhoji I., who inherited a moiety—some twenty villages—of his patrimonial estate from his brother Sahebji, chief of Rajkot, and for his valour, and military services rendered to the Governor of Ahmedabad he was given a grant of the village of Gondal, in 1648, which he greatly enlarged and enriched and made the capital of his small territory. The present Thakore Saheb is the twelfth in descent from him. Kambhoji's

warlike successors, especially Hallaji and Kambhoji II., added many villages to their possessions, one of which was Dhoraji, which they got from the Nawab of Junagadh. So for many years the Taluka had to undergo the process of development till it became—as it is now—one of the foremost states in Kathiawar. The resources of the kingdom have been vastly increased by the several British officials who were entrusted from time to time with its management during the minority of Thakore Saheb, Bhagvat Sinhji, who was born on the 24th of October, 1865, and so was only four years of age when his father Sagramji, the late ruler, died suddenly in Bombay, in 1870, at the age of 47. He was greatly beloved by his subjects, and had effected many improvements throughout his dominions, fortified two of the principal towns, established English and vernacular schools, as well as dispensaries and bungalows for travellers. After his death the state was managed by an European officer, afterwards by an assistant political agent until 1878, when it was placed under joint administration during the minority of the present ruler.

The young Prince during his early boyhood gave promise of a hopeful future ; he was very thoughtful and of a modest and reticent disposition, and evinced considerable aptitude for study. At the age of nine he entered the Rajkumar College, an institution then recently established for the education of the Kathiawar nobles. His whole college career, extending over a period of nine years, was one of uniform success, characterised alike by ability, industry and good behaviour. For a considerable time he maintained the position of head of the college, and without interruption won the annual prizes, either for diligence, drawing or proficiency in English ; he advanced so far beyond his fellow-students that he had to be put in a class by himself. His Highness is a notable

product of English education, and well worthy of the praises of even such earnest educationalists as Mr. Chester Macnaughten, Professor F. G. Selby, and Sir William Muir. In order to complete his education and with the desire of seeing all that was worth studying of the manners and customs of the English people, the Prince determined to undertake a tour in Europe, and under the guidance of Major (now Colonel) Hancock, he spent nearly four months in England and Scotland, then he extended his tour to the Continent, visiting Paris, Brussels, Hamburg, Lucerne and other places in Switzerland, Milan, Venice, Florence, Rome, Naples, and Brindisi, returning to India on the 13th of November, 1883. He has published his experiences and impressions during his travels in the shape of a regularly kept journal or diary, which is a delightful and interesting record of the scenes through which the young Prince went in the course of a somewhat hurried trip of six months' duration. The book, which has been very favourably noticed by the Indian, English, and Continental press, as much for its style and literary merits as for the fair and independent observations of the young writer, does him no little credit.

Soon after his return to India the Prince was initiated into the public business of his state by being associated in administration with Colonel Nutt. He assumed sole charge on the 25th of August, 1884, and the speech he made on his installation is regarded by his subjects as a *Magna Charta*, inasmuch as it puts forth an important declaration of his future policy, and it was so very thoughtful and effective that the then Governor in Council publicly complimented him upon the matter and tone of it.

In the same year he was nominated a Fellow of the Bombay University—an honour to which his literary pursuits fully entitle him. In the



early part of 1884, the Thakore Saheb again visited Scotland with the view of residing some time at the Edinburgh University. He stayed there for over fifteen months, and so greatly distinguished himself as a diligent and clever student of science, that the old Scottish University thought fit to confer upon him the honorary degree of LL.D.—a distinction never before conferred on a native of the Bombay Presidency. He was present in England at the time of the Jubilee in the capacity of a member of the deputation sent over by the chiefs of Kathiawar, and was fortunate enough to receive from the hand of Her Majesty in person the insignia of Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. He returned to India on the 13th of August, 1887. That day was a memorable one, for the Prince received from his enthusiastic subjects a grand ovation on his safe arrival among them. Addresses of welcome and congratulations were showered on him from all sides, and young and old, rich and poor, were all eager to do him honour and to offer greeting. The same year the Government of her Majesty the Queen-Empress was pleased to raise Gondal to the rank of a first-class native state, and to announce that in future the rulers would be entitled to a salute of eleven guns. It may well have afforded no small gratification and encouragement to his Highness to find his state advance in both rank and power under his *régime*, and to see it also recognised as one of the best governed territories in India.

In the beginning of 1890, his Highness's beloved consort Rani Shri Nandkuverba of Dharanpore was suddenly taken very ill, so much so that her doctors strongly advised a long sea voyage, and residence for a time in England under the best medical treatment available. Accordingly his Highness was obliged to set sail on the 21st March, with his Rani and children, leaving his Dewan (Prime Minister) in

charge of the state. It will be interesting to note that her Highness, who is a Rajput lady, is the first Rani of an Indian ruling chief who has ventured to set aside her caste prejudices and to cross the ocean, or the "Kala pani," as they call it in India. Her Highness has been under medical treatment for over two years now, and her health is greatly improved. The Thakore Saheb during his long stay in England, being fond of study and especially that of medicine, again joined the Edinburgh University, and with the assiduity of a regular student, qualified himself for the highest degree in that faculty. His exceptional talents have met with their due reward, for in the June of 1892, the University of Oxford, on the occasion of its last Commemoration Day, thought fit to confer on him the honorary degree of D.C.L. Well may the Prince be proud of this rare academic distinction, and so pleased are his subjects with the honour won by their chief, added to his just and beneficial rule, that with one accord they determined to erect a marble statue of him by public subscription. The time has not yet come for pronouncing a definite judgment upon the career of this enthusiastic and enlightened young ruler, for his plans and ideas of sound government have not yet been given full scope. Still, if what he has already done for his people be taken as an earnest of what is to follow, his Highness may justly lay claim to be considered a very capable and efficient administrator. He takes a keen and intelligent interest in all that concerns his state, and nothing is done without his knowledge. He regularly attends office at fixed hours, and carefully looks to the wants of his subjects. He has lately created the office of travelling doctor, with a view to afford medical aid to villagers living at a distance from the principal towns where there are dispensaries. The duty of this official is to visit villages in periodical rounds, and to give

medical assistance on the spot to the ignorant and poor who cannot conveniently resort to hospitals. This novel experiment has proved a remarkable success.

The Gondal Infirmary, known as the Bai Saheb Ba Asylum and Orphanage, is also the first and the best institution of the kind in the province ; it was founded in memory of his Highness's deceased wife, Bai Saheb, and here the infirm and disabled, who are unable to earn their livelihood, and are otherwise uncared for and neglected, are provided with clothes, board, lodging and medical aid. Separate wards are assigned to separate castes. And thus the institution is a blessing to many suffering under physical disabilities.

A large surplus capital has wisely been invested by the Prince in the construction of the railway known as the " Bhavnagar-Gondal," and the " Gondal-Porbandar " Railway. A branch connecting his capital with the main line is in course of construction and is now nearing completion.

The agricultural interests of the state have been stimulated in many ways, and every effort has been made to introduce superior wheat and new kinds of vegetables throughout the territory. Irrigation has been dealt with in a practical manner, and new wells are being sunk every year. All this means increased revenue and prosperity as well as a safeguard against local famine. The Gondal Horticultural Gardens are well known all over Kathiawar, and are kept in excellent order. An agricultural class is also attached to them where youths receive an excellent theoretic and practical training. The principal products of the country are cotton and grain, and an important industry is the manufacture of gold and silver cords, and cotton cloth is also manufactured. The Thakore Saheb inaugurated his accession by giving state scholarships, opening day and night schools, the remission of obnoxious taxes, grant-

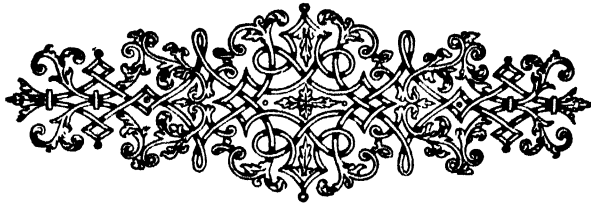
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ing important concessions and privileges to his people ; and to mark his appreciation of his *alma mater*, the Rajkumar College, he gave a handsome donation of Rs.25,000 and a further sum of Rs.5,000 for the purchase of books and bookcases. He also gave a grant of Rs.6,000 to the Bombay University for the collection of old Sanscrit manuscripts, and £2,000 to the building fund of the Oxford Indian Institute. These and other acts of the ruler afford unmistakable signs of a very bright and glorious future before him, for as the vane shows the direction of the wind, so do the past seven years of this promising young chief's life bear ample testimony to his capacity to govern his subjects justly. Already, under his enlightened rule, the state has advanced in importance and prosperity, and it will be interesting to note that, from the date of British management to the present day, about £1,000,000 has been spent by the state on public works, general improvements and railways. The Thakore Saheb exercises full civil and criminal jurisdiction over his subjects, who number 161,036 souls, according to the last census. The area of the state is 1,024 square miles, yielding an average revenue of Rs.12,000,000. It pays an annual tribute of Rs.101,721 to the British Government, and also to Baroda and the Nawab of Junagadh. This is the only state in Kathiawar which regularly publishes an annual report. The capital is also called Gondal, and is situated on the bank of the Gonduli River, over which is a handsome bridge. The palace is a fine building in the Gothic style, with a handsome clock-tower. There is a large market, school, with library attached, post and telegraph offices, law courts, jail and police station, as well as a fine people's park. The police are well organised and maintained at an annual cost of Rs.140,000. Besides the railways there are 100 miles of metalled roads ; hospitals, dispensaries, school houses, and various other institutions similar to

those in British territories, are among the improvements. His Highness is a man of studious habits and refined tastes, and is fortunate in having a singularly gifted spouse in the person of Rani Shri Nandkuverba, the daughter of the late Maharana of Dharanpore. The princess is a highly trained and accomplished lady, and takes the warmest interest in the educational advancement of her sex. She now and then presides at prize distributions in the girls' schools of the state. It will be interesting to many to read the practical advice she gave to the pupils of the Gondal Girls' School at a recent prize-giving. Her Highness's speech was as follows :—"Girls, this is the time for you to learn. You should make the best possible use of it. In ancient times many very learned ladies, such as Maitreyee, Gargee, Leela, and others, have flourished in our country. Keep their example before your eyes. In the great philosophical controversy between Mandanmishra and Shankaracharya, Leela Mandanmishra's wife was appointed an umpire with the consent of both disputants. Her knowledge was so high that she was believed by the people to be an incarnation of Sarasvatee, or the Goddess of Learning. The erudition of Maitreyee and Gargee is well known. Their words of wisdom are read by great pandits. Many such instances can be cited from among our class. If their high standard of proficiency is difficult to reach, you should at least know as much of reading, writing, singing, keeping accounts, sewing, knitting, cooking, and other domestic work as is essential in your worldly requirements. Virtue and morality are equally essential, perhaps more so, for it is better to be moral and virtuous without learning, than to become learned and be addicted to vice. When learning and virtue are found together it is as good as 'gold with fragrance.' Therefore, bear this in mind and zealously devote yourselves to study."

His Highness has two sons and one daughter. The heir-apparent, named Bhojraj, is ten years old and is being educated in England. The following are the names of a few of the principal officers of the Gondal State :

- Azam Bezanji Merwanji, Dewan (Prime Minister).
- Azam Manilal Govindram, Judicial Assistant.
- Azam Manekji Ratlanji, Chief Judge.
- Azam Kavasji E. Desai, Superintendent, Private Establishment.
- Azam Hari Krishna L. Darle, Private Secretary.
- Rao Saheb Chinto Vinajah, Police Superintendent.
- Dr. Hari Bhikhaji, Chief Medical Officer.
- Azam Vishvanath Dullabhram, Revenue Commissioner.
- Azam Ladka Damodar, State Vakeel.
- Azam Tribhovandas Purshotam, Treasury Officer.
- Azam Balabhai Gulabchand, I.C.E., State Engineer.
- Azam Bhagvanhal Gopatral, First-class Magistrate.
- Azam Anaut Mahadro Pandit, First-class Magistrate.
- Azam Maganlal Laxmeshankar, Huzoor Shersstedar.





HIS HIGHNESS MIR MAHABUB ALI KHAN BAHADUR ASAF JAH, G.C.S.I.,  
NIZAM OF HYDERABAD.

# SOUTHERN INDIAN STATES.

## HYDERABAD.

HIS HIGHNESS MIR MAHABUB ALI KHAN BAHADUR ASAF JAH, G.C.S.I.,  
NIZAM OF HYDERABAD.



HIS great Muhammadan Prince, who is of Tartar origin, and of the Soonee sect, rules over the largest and most important native state in India, and also enjoys the distinction of being the descendant of rulers who were the oldest allies of the British at a period when the French threatened to become the supreme power in India. So much can be written about the present administration and prospects of Hyderabad that will be interesting, that only the briefest sketch of its early and past history will be given. To go back to the earlier times, the fortress of Golconda was for many centuries the capital of the provinces over which the Nizam now reigns, but, owing to its unhealthiness and scarcity of water, Mahamud Kule in 1585 built a new city, about six miles south-east of Golconda, and called it Bhagnagar (Fortunate City), in honour of his favourite mistress, Bhagmuti; but after her death it was changed to "Haiderabad." Mahamud Kule beautified the city by building mosques, schools, hospitals, and baths, setting apart large sums for their maintenance. Altogether this liberal monarch expended over £2,000,000 in public works, and his nobles were almost equally generous.

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He died in 1611, and was succeeded by his son, Sultan Abdulla Kutub, during whose reign the city was conquered by the Mughals, and was plundered and laid waste, and Sultan Abdulla had to pay a yearly tribute to them of £1,000,000. He was succeeded by Aba Hussein, who was equally unfortunate; he defended for seven months the fort of Golconda, but was conquered by treachery in 1687, and sent as a prisoner to Daulatabad, where he died, and his territories were seized by the ambitious Aurangzeb; but the Mughal Empire, after his death, began to decline, and the founder of the present reigning family—Mir Kamroodin Asaf Jah—became, in 1713, Viceroy of the Deccan, with the title of Nizam-ul-Mulk (Regulator of the State), and this title has always been retained by his successors. He was a grandson of Kuli Khan, Kazi of Bokhara (a Khanate of Central Asia), who settled in India during the reign of Shah Jehan, the fifth Mughal Emperor, became a distinguished general in the service of Aurangzeb, and was killed at the siege of Golconda in 1686. After the death of Mohamed Shah, the Nizam became an independent ruler, and made Hyderabad his capital, although he still continued to send presents at intervals to the Court of Delhi. He died in 1748, and his successor, the second Nizam, was Nazir Jung, assassinated at Arcot in 1750. The third ruler, Nizam Moozuffer Jung was murdered in 1751. The next claimant, Ghazuodein, was poisoned by the mother of Salabat Jung, the fourth Nizam, who only ruled for about two years, when he was dethroned, and afterwards killed by his younger brother Nizam Ali, who usurped the rulership, and became the fifth Nizam. He was supported by the British Government, with whom he entered into a treaty. In 1779 the first British Resident (Mr. Holland) was appointed to the Court of Hyderabad, and a few years later a new treaty was concluded, by which the British Government received several

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important districts in trust for the payment of the Hyderabad Contingent, a military force kept up for the Nizam's use, his troops having been found totally inefficient, when, according to his agreement he assisted the British in time of war. His reign was long, but not very prosperous, and his territories were greatly reduced. His death took place in 183, and he was succeeded by his son Sikandar Jah, the sixth Nizam, whose revenue was Rs.1,89,33,350. At that time Sir Charles Metcalf was Resident, who introduced many important reforms, and by his firmness and judgment saved the state from being entirely ruined by debt. Sikandar Jah died in 1829, and was succeeded by his son Nazir-ud-Dowlah, the seventh Nizam, who was a poor administrator, and had it not been for Sir Salar Jung, who became Minister in 1853, the state would have been ruined. The zeal and energy of that statesman soon made a difference in the management; but the kingdom was deeply involved in debt, and the Nizam was compelled to assign the Berars, Raichore Doab, and Dharaseo districts to the British to pay arrears and maintain the Contingent. Accounts were to be annually rendered to the Nizam, and any surplus revenue paid to him; on the other hand he was released from the obligation of furnishing a large force in time of war, while the Contingent ceased to be a part of the Nizam's army, but became an auxiliary force kept by the British Government for his use. Sir Salar Jung's duties were most arduous. The state treasury was empty, and the whole of the Nizam's private funds had been swallowed up in endeavours to partially satisfy the claims of the state creditors; indeed, even his Highness's jewels were mortgaged for the same purpose; but in 1885 the revenue collection showed an increase of twenty lakhs of rupees. The British Government supported all the Minister's measures, and they were amply requited when the Mutiny of 1857 took place. If

the Nizam and his Minister had faltered in the slightest it would have fared ill, at least for a time, with the British rule in India. So critical was the position that the Governor of Bombay telegraphed to the Resident at Hyderabad, "If the Nizam goes all is lost." Just when this telegram reached the Resident, the Nizam was suffering from a dangerous illness, which terminated fatally. On his death-bed he desired Sir Salar Jung to bring his son to him; and his dying counsel to him was, that, as the British Government had always been so friendly to himself, his successor should continue faithful to the English. No time was lost in proclaiming the son, his Highness Afzul-ud-Dowla, his successor. When the Resident returned from the installation ceremony, he found a telegram from the Governor-General—which had arrived during his absence—announcing the fall of Delhi. Hyderabad was at this time "a seething mass of disaffection," yet the Minister bravely seized the Aurangabad mutineers, who had sought shelter at Hyderabad, and set Arab guards at the city gates, with orders to fire upon anyone who attempted to incite the people to rise against the English. The following tribute was given by General Hill for the action taken by Salar Jung at this period:—"These energetic measures saved South India, for had the people of Hyderabad risen against us, the Muhammadan population of Madras would, it was well known at the Residency, have followed their example; and it is but just to this distinguished man that the people of England should be informed how entirely the stability of British rule in South India was owing to the wise and energetic measures adopted by Salar Jung." His services were, indeed, priceless, when it is remembered that the Minister went about in daily fear of assassination, and was the object of threats, execrations, and hatred upon the part of the whole population.

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The lull after the storm of the Mutiny was taken advantage of by Salar Jung to push forward many necessary reforms ; he worked twelve hours a day, the water supply was improved, good roads made, courts of justice established, police organised, and jails, schools, and public buildings erected. Notwithstanding this vast expenditure, the revenue increased from Rs. 40,000,000, in 1853, to Rs. 52,000,000 in 1861 since which time the revenue has steadily advanced, while the expenditure has been on an equal scale. His Highness Afzul-ul-Dowlah, the eighth Nizam, died in 1870, when his son, the present and ninth Nizam, his Highness Mir Mahabub Ali Khan, was in his third year ; so a co-regency was established, consisting of the Dewan (Minister) and Amir Shums-ul-Umrah (hereditary commander of the Nizam's household troops, and one of the highest nobles in Hyderabad). Salar Jung until his death was virtually head of the state, a position which he filled with the greatest dignity and honour.

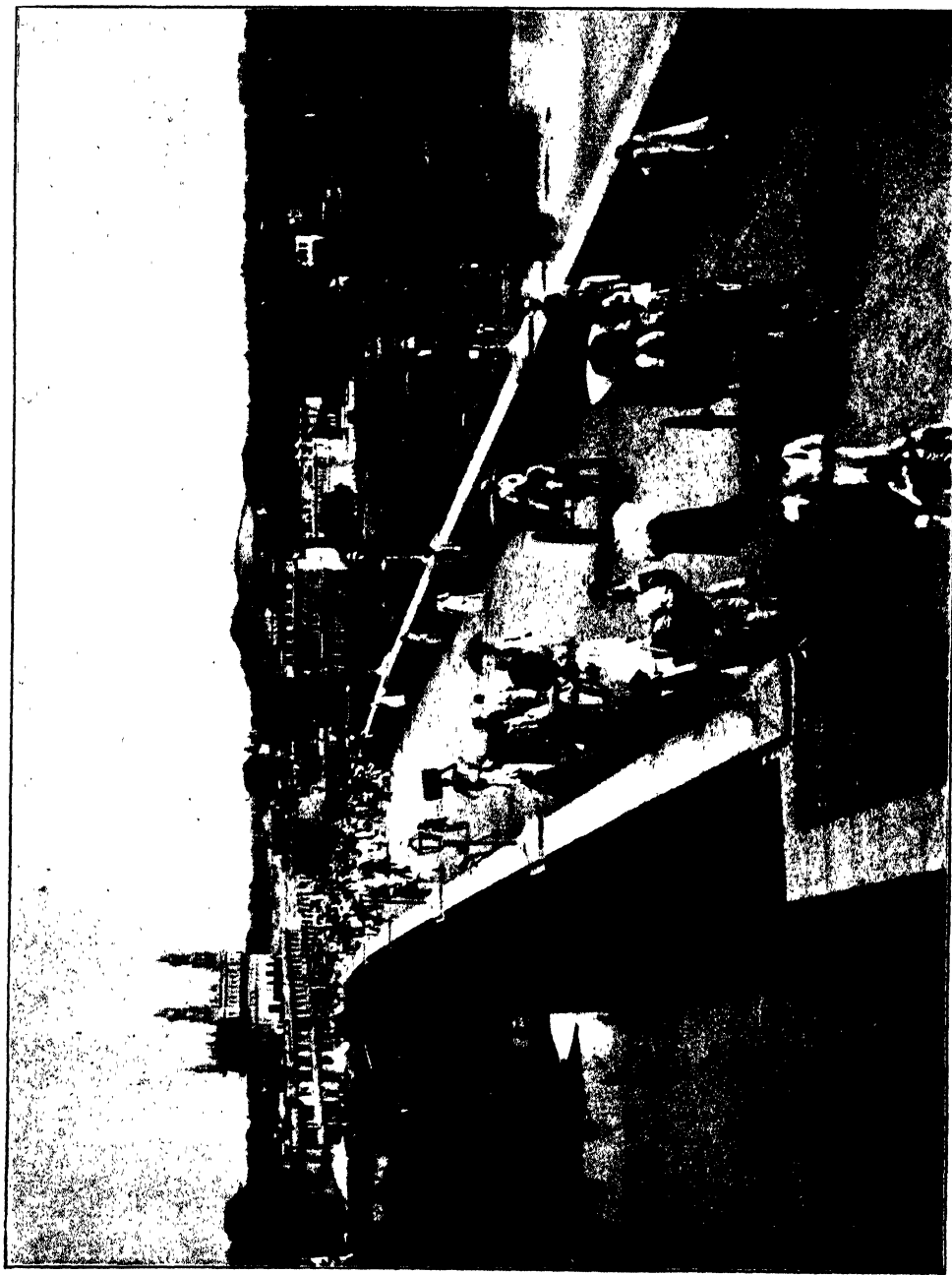
To give an idea of the importance and extent of the Nizam's dominions, it will be necessary to give a short description of the state, which, including the assigned districts of Berar, cover an area of over 98,000 square miles, has a population of nearly 11,000,000, and a revenue of over £4,000,000. Some parts of the country are mountainous, the chief ranges being the Sautpoora, Mulkapere, and Golconda hills, which are well wooded ; others stretch out into rich plains and undulating slopes intersected by great rivers, the principal of which are the Godavery, Wurda, and Kistna. The soil is very rich, producing two grain crops a year. There is much undeveloped wealth in the country, which presents a fine field for the operations of capitalists in developing its resources. Coal has been found, and an influential London firm offered to procure a loan of £10,000,000 for the Nizam on favourable terms, for opening up coal-fields,

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and for some public works ; but it is the diamond mines of Golconda that possess the most historic interest ; indeed, the most famous gem, "The Kohinur," is supposed to have belonged to King Vikramaditya (B.C. 56), and to a succession of Moslem Princes (A.D. 1306), till it fell into the hands of Christians. The Indian diamond was first made famous in Europe by the French jeweller, Jean Baptiste Tavernier, who made six journeys to the Peninsula as a purchaser. The name Golconda is always associated with untold wealth from its diamond mines, which are not near the fort, but at the village of Partiál, about 150 miles from Hyderabad. They derive their name from being in the kingdom of Golconda. When the Nizam ceded the Northern Circars to the British Government he reserved his rights in these mines, which once gave employment to 6,000 men, but now are hardly worked at all, although it is said that plenty of diamonds are still to be found there. An account of a visit to these mines in 1667 is given in Syed Hosseins Belgramis' "Historical and Descriptive Sketch." "Golconda, now in ruins, was once the capital of an ancient kingdom. The King of Golconda has vast revenues ; he is proprietor of all the lands in his kingdom, which he rents out to those who offer most. The diamond mines pay him likewise a great revenue, and all those whom he allows to dig in ; those that are towards Masulipatan pay him a *pagod* every hour they work there, whether they find diamonds or not. His chief mines are in Carnates, in divers places towards Viznapur, and he hath six thousand men continually at work there, who daily find near three pounds weight ; and nobody digs there but for the King. This Prince wears on the crown of his head a jewel almost a foot long, which is said to be of inestimable value ; it is a rose of great diamonds, three or four inches in diameter ; in the top of that rose there is a little crown, out of which issues a

branch fashioned like a palm-tree, but is round ; and that palm-branch (which is crooked at the top) is a good inch in diameter, and about half a foot long. It is made up of several sprigs, which are (as it were) leaves of it, and each of which have at their end a lovely long pearl, shaped like a pear. At the foot of this posie there are two bands of gold in fashion of table-bracelets, in which are encased large diamonds set around with rubies, which, with great pearls that hang dangling down on all sides, make an exceeding rare show; and these bands have clasps of diamonds to fasten the jewels to the head. He surpasses all the Kings of India in precious stones." The fort of Golconda is situated on a rocky ridge of granite; lofty walls several miles in length surround it; a long winding road leads over paths, up many steps and through archways, to a building on the top, whence a splendid view is obtained in every direction. Outside the walls are the massive Mausolea of the Kings of Golconda who ruled the country before the advent of the Nizams; some of the tombs are said to have cost £150,000. The fortress is now used as a treasury, and the gates are zealously guarded by Arabs and Rohillas. No one is ever admitted into it, not even the Minister, unless the Nizam himself is there. There are many interesting places in the Hyderabad state. Aurangabad city, founded in 1610, the old Cemetery with its carved doorway, and the mausoleum of Rubia Durrani, with its white marble lattice-work, exquisitely carved. The mausoleum itself measures seventy-eight feet from east to west, and seventy-seven feet from north to south. Only one arch remains of the famous citadel built by Aurangzeb, where fifty-three great princes attended the Court of the Emperor with thousands of armed retainers. There are five caves in Aurangabad, with figures of Buddha, attendants, and worshippers. Eight miles from Aurangabad lies Daulatabad, noted for

its fort, which is built on a huge rock, 500 feet high, with an entrance through dark winding passages and steps cut into the rock. It is a most wonderful work ; the outer wall is 5,000 yards in circumference, fifteen feet thick at the base, and forty-eight feet high. In the year 1293 Alau-din, Emperor of Delhi, took the city of Daulatabad (then known as Deogarh), but was unable to conquer the citadel, and agreed to retire for a ransom of 15,000 lbs. of pure gold, 175 lbs. of pearls, 50 lbs. of diamonds, and 25,000 lbs. of silver. About five miles from the fort is the tomb of Aurangzeb. "The screen for the lower part is of white marble, five feet high, with wood above. The door is of teak carved in lattice-work like the screen. It has two leaves, each leaf being two feet ten inches broad. The village of Rozah is seven miles from Daulatabad, and two miles further are situated the wonderful caves of Ellora. These marvellous structures represent the Buddhist Jain, and Brahminical styles of architecture ; there are thirty principal temples and monasteries extending over a distance of two and a half miles, the oldest dating back to at least 200 B.C. All the caves face to the west. A road was made by the late Sir Salar Jung, leading to the caves, several of which have been cleared out and sweepers appointed to keep them in order. The most wonderful among these cave temples are—No. 2 cave, supported on twelve columns with cushioned capitals (Buddhist), the Vishnae Karma supported by twenty-eight octagonal pillars fourteen feet high, and many figures ; the dates on one of the pillars being 1828—A.D. 1306 ; the *Do Lal*, or Two Stories, and *Sui Sal* with most elaborately carved front pillars. The first Brahminical cave is called Ravan Ra Khai, "The ashes of Ravan," with very horrible sculptures, Shiva dancing the "Dance of Destruction." Another cave, called the *Dar Avatar*, in walls and sculpture show Shiva in his destroying character, and is a realistically ghastly representation



A STREET IN HYDERABAD CITY.  
(*Look Them Over!*)



of butchery. Then comes the *Kailas*, a monolithic temple excavated out of the solid rock, said to have been built by Raja Edne of Ellichpur in the eighth century, which rises to a height of a hundred feet in the centre, and is surrounded by colonades. Every available space inside and out is most elaborately carved. The Temple of Visvakarmer contains figures of Buddha seated in niches, and another colossal figure of him standing. The next caves are Jain, and the carving of the pillars is very fine. At the extreme north is the Paraswanath cave; Parasnath, "Lord of Purity," being the Jain deity, and an image of him is here, measuring ten feet six inches, sitting with the hands in the lap laid one within the other, the finger extended and the palms inward. The hair is curly, and the head canopied by a seven-headed serpent, whose folds, doubled behind the image, serve it as a prop. From the centre of the seat of the image half projects a wheel, above which, on the cushions, an astrological table is carved. Elephants' and lions' heads support the seat on either side. There are also five sitting figures and one standing figure of attendants decorated with ear-rings, necklaces, bracelets, and anklets. Ajunta is another place famous for its caves, which are said by Mr. James Fergusson to be the most perfect and complete Buddhist caves in India, without any types of Brahminism, and containing types of all the rest. It was at this spot that the Duke of Wellington halted after the battle of Assaye in 1830; there the British gained a memorable victory over the Mahrattas. The caves, twenty-seven in number, are situated in a perpendicular cliff, the road leading to them winding through a lovely glen full of most exquisite flowers, whose rich odour perfumes the air, and probably help to attract the bees with which the caves swarm, much to the discomfort of travellers. The spot is doubly interesting from the paintings in oil which ornament some of the walls, and are said to equal,

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if not surpass—those at Pompeii. In No. 10 cave there is an inscription in pure Jat characters which fixes the date between 200 and 100 years B.C. The pictures or frescoes represent the legendary history of Buddha; indeed, the whole of the Adjunta caves belong to and illustrate the Buddhist religion.

Secunderabad, which is a military cantonment, and the headquarters of the Hyderabad subsidiary force, stands about five and a half miles from the British Residency. The parade-ground is magnificent; on the north side of it are the officers' houses, the railway station, and the church, which is said to be large enough to hold a European regiment. There are also fine assembly-rooms and a theatre. Three thousand Europeans and 5,000 native troops are stationed here, the cost being defrayed out of the revenues of the assigned districts of Berar. The cantonment covers an area of about twenty square miles. The intrenched camp of Trimalgiri, situated three miles from Secunderabad, is intended as a refuge for Europeans in case of need. It is surrounded by a ditch seven feet deep, out of the side of which rises a rampart seven feet high, with bastions on which guns are mounted. It is well supplied with water from wells, and in the commissariat store sufficient bread and provisions can be kept to supply a force located there for twelve months. Fifty bakers are employed, who turn out on an average 3,000 lbs. of bread every day. The military prison, called Windsor Castle because of its supposed resemblance to that royal residence, is an imposing building in the form of a cross, and has a clock-tower, in the second story of which is a printing press, where all the camp orders are printed. Another important military station is Jaulnah, noted also for European fruit and vegetables, which are grown there in the greatest perfection. Bidar, a fine city, with lofty buildings, is surrounded by a wall six miles

in length, in which are eight gates, and 35 bastions ; 27 more bastions are in the citadel, which is called the *Ark*. The Rang Mahal palace is full of interest ; it was the residence of Raja Pratab Rudra, before the city was conquered by the Muhammadans. Its principal inmates now are a colony of huge black-faced baboons, who are maintained out of an allowance settled on them during the time of the old Rajas, amounting to sixty rupees a month. No one is allowed to kill them, and they have multiplied to such an extent and are so vicious, as to become a great pest to the surrounding villages, for in spite of the great paniers of bread provided for them they steal and destroy fruit and grain. There are two other palaces or towers, a fine temple, and several tombs elaborately carved and ornamented with flowers and inscriptions in gold and blue, where the Bahmani kings were buried. Indeed, the towns and villages in the state are full of interesting buildings and ruins, but the capital of the province will prove more interesting than the homes and work of bygone monarchs. Hyderabad city, and the royal residence of India's mightiest prince, is situated on the south bank of the river Musah, 1,672 feet above the level of the sea, and surrounded by granite hills, which are covered to their summits with long grass and huge boulders of rocks, that look as if they had been pitched there by giants at play. A fine wall, six miles long, encircles the city, to which admittance is gained by thirteen gateways. The total population, including the suburbs, is 355,000. A large lake, twenty miles in circumference, and situated to the south of the city, constitutes the water supply. Near the railway station is a fine public pleasure ground, with two pavilions and a menagerie, arranged by the late Sir Salar Jung. The next object of interest is the Residency, which, standing in a suburb called the Chadar Ghat, is surrounded by a Bazaar containing about 12,000 inhabitants; the

imposts which are levied there are the perquisites of the Nizam's principal wife. The Residency, built from designs by Mr. P. Russell, an officer in the Madras Engineers, was constructed entirely by native workmen. It stands in a beautiful ornamental garden surrounded by a high wall with two gateways; a flight of twenty-two gigantic granite steps, the lowest of which is over sixty feet long, having on either side a huge sphinx, leads to a large portico; six dazzling white fluted pillars support the upper part. The pavement is of *chunam* (or stucco), in imitation of black and white marble. At each end of the portico are the library and a boudoir; three folding doors open into a magnificent reception hall sixty feet long, fifty feet high, and thirty-three feet broad, with a gallery supported on thirty-two columns; three chandeliers light this splendid room, the furniture of which is mahogany, and the floor Sagwan wood with parqueted sides. The staircase—each step of which is formed of a single block of granite, and is said by Sir William Hunter to be “the finest in India”—leads to the state apartments, which consist of a fine banqueting-hall, drawing-room, and four bedrooms; the rooms are a blaze of mirrors and gilding, the hanging draperies and furniture being of the richest design and colouring. The cost of lighting the Residency in former times for one single reception was £1,000. When Colonel Fitzpatrick (who married an Indian princess) was Resident, the ladies were received by his wife in a separate palace built for her use, which was richly ornamented in Oriental style. The most prominent and remarkable building in the city is the Char Minar, with four minarets 186 feet high. It was built for the Mussulman College, but is now used as a warehouse. The principal mosque is the Mekkah, a grand but sombre building with four minarets and six arches in front, and in its courtyard are the tombs of the former Nizams. Many of the premier

nobles of Hyderabad have fine palaces, but as they are surrounded by high walls, but little of their magnificence can be surmised in making a tour of the city. The Bara Dari (literally twelve doors), the palace of the late Sir Salar Jung, is of great size ; the rooms are built round a series of squares, in the centres of which are gardens, tanks, and fountains ; one room, called the china room, is decorated from floor to ceiling with every description of rare china, fastened with plaster to the walls ; all the rooms are beautifully furnished, and the walls hung with fine copies of the old Italian masters. There is also a splendid library of European and native books ; the gardens are extensive, and there is a large stable of beautiful Arab horses, as well as several elephants ; Khudadad, Sir Salar's state elephant, was eleven feet six inches high, and was the largest in India.

His Highness the Nizam's palace is very large but not architecturally beautiful ; the entrance is through a gateway which leads into a quadrangle, from which a lane leads into a third quadrangle in which are about 2,000 servants and horsemen. In the third quadrangle are between 1,000 and 2,000 more attendants, and here visitors dismount from their elephants and are received by the Chamberlain and conducted into a handsome pavilion lighted by five immense chandeliers, where the Nizam receives visitors. Seven thousand persons live in the palace, which has also a guard of Amazons, which consists of between twenty-five and thirty women in a peculiar brown uniform. The heir to this mighty state has been very carefully educated under the direction of Col. John Clerk, C.S.I., and his brother Capt. C. Clerk, C.I.E. When about sixteen years of age his Highness made a tour of his dominion, so as to gain some knowledge of its administration ; on reaching the age of eighteen he was invested with full powers by the Viceroy,

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Lord Ripon. The imposing ceremony took place on February 5, 1884, in the large Durbar Hall of the Chou Mahaila Palace, where former Nizams had been installed. As his Highness was the first ruler placed on the throne of Hyderabad by the British Government, no expense was spared to render the occasion memorable. A yellow carpet covered with maroon velvet was stretched across the hall to the dais, to which three steps gave access. On it were two richly gilt massive chairs of state with yellow velvet seats. In front of the dais were two smaller chairs, on which were seated the Viceroy and the Nizam, before the latter of whom was placed a larger chair of state representing the Gadi (throne.) Overhead was a canopy of cloth of gold, supported by four pillars of silver and gold, and at the side hung yellow silk curtains with white fringe. The Nizam is "a little below middle height, slightly made, with handsome, regular features, more European than native in character; he wears whiskers and a moustache, and his hair is somewhat longer than is the fashion among young Englishmen. He wears a black coat, like an undress uniform, a gold belt with a diamond clasp, and magnificent diamonds on his cap." The Viceroy presented him with a jewelled sword, and other handsome gifts. A grand banquet was given by the Nizam in the evening; the palace was brilliantly illuminated, and the whole scene one of unexampled magnificence. The menus were printed on yellow satin edged with red fringe, and the long table decorated with gold plate and flowers. For several days the rejoicings were kept up, and deputations presenting addresses of congratulation and valuable presents were received at the palace. The Nizam afterwards made a week's hunting tour in the vicinity of his capital, and while enjoying his simple camp life, became also acquainted with some of his subjects, with whom he at times entered into conversa-

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tion and showed a much appreciated and kindly interest in their welfare. His Highness speaks English fluently, writes it also well, is a good rider and tent-pegger, and a capital shot ; he mixes freely with the English in a way that would never have been imagined possible during the reigns of his predecessors. The Nizam's collection of jewels is one of the finest in the world, and another famous diamond, the "Imperial," was about to be added to it about eighteen months ago ; it is the size of a large walnut and weighs 186 carats—81 carats more than the "Kohinor." The price asked for it was 46 lakhs of rupees, and the Nizam paid 23 lakhs on account ; but, alas ! the British Resident interfered and prevented the completion of the purchase on account of a prospective famine in the state, and as the diamond merchant Mr. Jacob (who is Marion Crawford's Mr. Isaacs), refused to refund the 23 lakhs of rupees, the "Imperial" was the cause of a lawsuit. Mr. Sorabji Jehangir, in his "Representative Men of India," mentions several rights and customs peculiar to the court of Hyderabad, such as "the Nizams bestowing titles on the successive British Residents accredited to their courts." "This practice," says Mr. Jehangir, "has now ceased, but the Nizam still continues to bestow titles on his own subjects, a privilege which no other state in India enjoys." To quote further from this interesting work, "Up to 1829 the Nizam spoke of himself in all official correspondence as 'Ma Ba Dowlatt' (our royal self), while the Governor-General spoke of himself as 'Miazhmand' (the well-wisher). On the accession of his Highness Nasir ud Dowla, this mode of address was discontinued, and the Governor-General commenced to correspond with the Nizam on terms of equality. Lastly, an important change was introduced, at the instance of the British authorities, in the style of the reception of the Resident at the Nizam's durbars. Hitherto it had been customary for the Resident and

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his staff to enter the presence of the Nizam shoeless, and to seat themselves on the carpeted floor in the orthodox Oriental fashion. The accession of the present Nizam was deemed a favourable opportunity for abolishing this custom. Although Sir Salar Jung feared that the proposed innovation would be distasteful to the nobles and might create disturbance, he acted in a spirit of wise conciliation, and with such tact that the Resident and his staff were allowed to enter the Palace with booted feet, and to sit on chairs without any opposition being offered."

Many are the efforts made by the Nizam and his council to encourage native manufactures and trades. Several towns and villages are noted for several ornamental arts, notably Aurangabad for its beautiful beetle-wing and gold work on muslin ; Nandair for its cobweb-like muslins, a whole dress-piece of which scarcely weighs a pound, and can be easily passed through a ring without crushing it ; Bidar for its silver inlaid-work ; Nagar Karnul for lacquer-work. Warangal is famous for its pile carpets and rugs, and the bazaars in the capital would send curio collectors crazy with delight ; rare old weapons and arms, engraved and jewelled, can be picked up for a mere song ; the pretty fabrics woven of silk and cotton, gold embroidered velvets and the quaint red pottery for which Hyderabad is famous.

Cotton and spinning mills have been established, and cloth and silk factories are opened, schools are increasing, and the state defrays the expense of educating her young nobles in England, and fitting them for Government posts. His Highness is also a warm supporter of Lady Dufferin's scheme for supplying medical aid to the women of India. A lady doctor has been appointed Professor of Obstetrics in the Medical School. Native women are trained under English nurses. A home has been established at Warangal, presided over by an English lady nurse,



where female orphans are supported and trained, and a young native lady has been sent to England to complete her medical training at a cost of £1,000.

The Nizam has emulated his father in his devotion and loyalty to England. He offered his troops for employment in Egypt, and also for Afghanistan. His last generous offer can never be sufficiently lauded. Never has such a princely and inestimable offer been conveyed in simpler and more soul-stirring words. I give the letter addressed to the Viceroy, for which I am again indebted to Mr. Jehangir :—

*Hyderabad, August 26.*

“MY FRIEND,—No inhabitant can be indifferent to the persistent advance of another great military power towards India ; to the necessity that exists for putting the frontier in a proper state of defence ; and to the burden it imposes on those charged with the safety and care of the Empire. All who have the welfare of India at heart are bound to consider what should be done, and to show they are heartily in sympathy with those who are endeavouring to place the frontier in a proper state of defence, so as to ward off all dangers from our hearths and homes. The Princes of India have not been blind to the movement of events. We realise the financial responsibility the present state of affairs imposes on the Indian Exchequer. It seems to me that the time has arrived for showing in some open manner that India is united on this question, and for that reason I write now and spontaneously offer to the Imperial Government a contribution from the Hyderabad State of twenty lakhs of rupees annually for three years, for the exclusive purpose of Indian frontier defence. This is my offer in time of peace. At a later stage you can count upon my sword.—Your sincere friend,

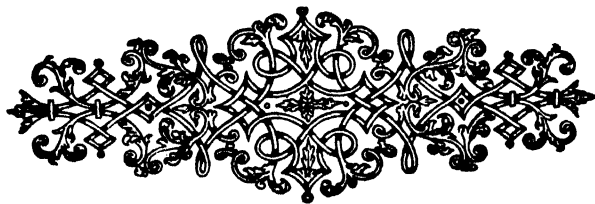
MIR MAHABUB ALI KHAN.’

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This letter needs no comment, except that it is worthy of the writer. Hyderabad is not only fortunate in her monarch, but her nobles have also distinguished themselves not only in India, but in England also. The late Sir Salar Jung, G.C.S.I., was a notable example. Descended from a noble Arab family, he distinguished himself by his ability as a statesman, his enlightened views and strict integrity. He was as highly thought of in England as in India, was presented with the freedom of the City of London on the occasion of his visit in 1876, and fêted and honoured wherever he went. H.E. Nawab Sir Asman Jah Bahadur, K.C.I.E., Prime Minister of Hyderabad, and brother-in-law of his Highness the Nizam, has also been active in promoting the good of the state ; he represented the Nizam at the Jubilee celebration, when he was made Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire. The Nawab is a clever Persian and Arabic scholar, and also understands English. His palace and country houses are among the sights of Hyderabad, and furnished in European style. He contributes munificently to every good work. Nawab Sir Khorshed Jah, Commander of the Nizam's household troops, a member of the Council of Regency in 1882, and of the Council of State in 1884, has also married a daughter of the late Nizam. The Nawab is one of the most faithful advisers of the state, and a nobleman of great influence, energy, and determination. Nawab Sir Salar Jung Bahadur, K.C.I.E., eldest son of the late Sir Salar Jung, became Prime Minister of Hyderabad at the age of twenty-one ; he was born in 1862, and educated under an English tutor. He also visited England with his brother, Nawab Munir-ul-Mulk Bahadur, Revenue Minister of the Hyderabad State. Sir Salar Jung possesses great administrative abilities and powers of organisation, and is greatly beloved. His brother, Nawab Munir-ul-Mulk, who was brought

up with the Nizam and is a great favourite of his, has worked wonders in the Revenue Department. Happy and honoured must be the sovereign surrounded by such faithful and devoted Ministers. The state is progressing and improving yearly, and his Highness's reign will be marked by many important reforms. The Nizam is entitled to a salute of twenty-one guns, coins his own money, and attends with methodical care to all state affairs ; he maintains an army of 8,000 cavalry, 36,000 foot, and 725 guns ; over 6,000 of these are Arabs, and the chiefs and nobles have 10,000 other mercenaries, mostly composed of Afghan Beloochees, in their service. The Hyderabad contingent numbers 8,000.

So far the affairs of Hyderabad are in a satisfactory and progressive condition. The Nizam continues to fulfil the expectations of the British Government, and to reign over his many subjects with justice and wisdom, and he is greatly beloved by all. He has a son, who is now twenty years of age.



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HIS HIGHNESS SRI CHAMA RAJENDRA WOODYAR BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

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## MYSORE.

HIS HIGHNESS SRI CHAMA RAJENDRA WOODYAR BAHADUR, G.C.S.I.,  
MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.



HIS fair province of Mysore, over which the Maharaja Chama Rajendra holds undisputed and absolute sway, is situated in Southern India, and is entirely surrounded by British territory. The fame of its gold-mines has of late years attracted the attention of European capitalists, and the three lines of railways—the Madras branch, Southern Mahratta, and the Mysore State Railway—have rendered the country more accessible to travellers, and also given an impetus to commerce, which has materially enriched the state treasury. Mysore (or Maheshuru, the City of Buffaloes) has an area of 24,753 square miles, a population of 4,192,189, and a revenue of £1,000,000 per annum, out of which the sum of £350,000 is paid to the British Government for the maintenance of an efficient force for the defence of the state. The country is beautifully undulating. Rocky granite hills, capped with the ruins of ancient fortresses, look down deep ravines, or keep guard over pleasant fertile valleys watered by many fine rivers, the best known of which is the Cauvery. These valleys are at intervals spanned across by bunds, creating reservoirs or tanks, which are filled from the waters of the streams thus arrested; the surplus waters are discharged over weirs, and replenish the next reservoir lower down. The

intervening spaces thus easily irrigated form valuable and productive plantations of cocoa-nut and areca palms. The large rivers are also dammed across, and irregular channels run from either end. The mountain ranges have their base well wooded, forming almost impenetrable forests, where all kinds of wild animals, such as elephants, tigers, leopards, panthers, and bears, abound.

The early history of Mysore carries us back to the third century B.C., when the province was under the religious influence and rule of Jainism, which maintained its supremacy until A.D. 200, when the Brahmin religion gained and kept the ascendancy, except for a brief period during the thirteenth century, and all that now remains to show the early religion of the country are the remains of several beautiful temples and tombs. Although little is known of the early history of the country, except what can be gleaned from archæological remains and inscriptions on stone and copper, which are everywhere found, that little proves that even at an early period civilisation had made considerable progress. The Brahminical religion—which is professed by the Mysore people and the Royal family—is divided into three periods: its earliest form, when natural objects were worshipped, is called the “Vedic period,” from the “Vedas” or sacred books; the second is called the “Epic period,” from the wonderful compositions of the Mahābharatā and Rāmāyana, and several places, says Sir William Hunter, mentioned in these epics have been identified; the third is the “Puranic period,” corresponding with our Middle Ages.

The earlier chiefs of Mysore were called “Woodeyar,” which signifies “lord,” and in 1610 Raj Woodeyar conquered Seringapatam and established the kingdom of Mysore. He was succeeded by Chama Raj, who in turn was followed by Kanthi Raj, who enlarged and fortified his

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capital, and was a very clever and energetic ruler; he died in 1658. His successor was Chekha Deva Raj, who also during his long reign of thirty-four years added greatly to his territory. Nothing of any great importance took place until 1734, when Chekha Krishna Raj ascended the throne, but was shortly afterwards deposed and imprisoned in his palace at Seringapatam by the famous Haider Ali, whose father was a general in the Raja of Mysore's army. Haider Ali was chosen as the next Raja in 1762, and his reign, although short, was a very brilliant one; he so greatly increased his dominions that in 1766 they covered 84,000 square miles, and yielded an immense revenue. He was continually engaged in war, either with the English or the Mahrattas. He finally formed an alliance with the latter against the British, and obtaining the services of French officers, took Arcot in 1780, but was defeated by Sir Eyre Coote in the following year, whereupon his allies, the Mahrattas, forsook him. Haider Ali had become one of the greatest Muhammadan princes in India, and England's most formidable enemy. He died in 1782 and was succeeded by his son, Tippu Sultan, who had inherited his father's determination to expel the British from Hindustan. In 1792 the Marquis Cornwallis compelled him to sue for peace, for which he had to pay a large sum of money, cede a considerable portion of territory, and give his two sons as hostages; but he still continued to plot against his conquerors, and to annoy their allies, which resulted in another war, ending with the death of Tippu Sultan at the storming of Seringapatam in 1790; and the throne of Mysore was restored to a descendant of the old Hindu dynasty founded in 1610, and the late Maharaja Krishna Raj, then only a boy of four years, was installed. During the Prince's minority the state was administered by Purnaiya, a Brahmin, who acted with great wisdom and ability, and when the



young Prince was invested with full power, the state was in a most prosperous condition, and his treasury full. Instead of following the example set him by his able minister, he recklessly squandered his wealth, and so seriously misgoverned, that the British Government was compelled to interfere and to assume the administration.

The Maharaja died in 1868, and his adopted son—descended from another branch of the Royal family—then in his seventh year, was installed as his successor on September 23 of the same year, by the title of Chama Rajendra Woodeyar. His Highness has been carefully educated under the superintendence of Colonel Malleon, and during his minority the state was under the direct management of four English officers, one for each division.

Mysore city is the Royal residence, but Bangalore is the administrative headquarters. The latter is divided into two parts, the old native town and the cantonments, which have been assigned to the British Government, and are a civil and military station, noted for its salubrity. The Maharaja has a palace there, something in the style of Windsor Castle, and is considered the finest building in Southern India; it is a structure of English and Indian architecture, and the same combination has been adhered to in the internal decorations and furnishings. There are also a fine museum, cutchery (law courts), beautiful public gardens, a fine jail, noted for its manufacture of carpets, a college, noble mansions inhabited by European officers and residents, and the historic fort, where the tiny cell can be seen in which, in 1780, Sir David Baird was imprisoned. In Bangalore are produced some of the finest specimens of workmanship in gold, silver, sandel-wood, and ivory. The designs are carried out with most exquisite delicacy and the beaten gold jewellery is of cobweb-like texture and appearance, yet of most

finished execution ; the gold and silver smiths are adepts at chasing, embossing and *répoussé* work. Gold and silver lace is another industry, and silks of richest colouring and texture are sold by weight. There are many places worthy the attention of travellers in the state, Seringapatam, the old capital, being one of the most interesting. It is situated on an island in the river Cauvery, and contains many remains of Jain temples, in one of which, within the fort, is the shrine at which the great Buddha himself is said to have worshipped ; there also are the ruins of Tippu Sultan's palace. Up to 1799 Seringapatam was the seat of government, but at the death of Tippu, it was removed to Mysore. On the island is also the handsome mausoleum, built by Tippu for his father, and where he himself also was buried. The loveliest scenery in the whole state is to be found on the island of Swasamudram, where the celebrated Falls of Cauvery, which have been compared to Niagara, are to be seen. No finer sight than this fall—especially after the rainy season—can be imagined. Somnathpur, near Bangalore, has two splendid old temples ; one, built by Prince Prasanna Chenna Kesava in 1200, has a triple shrine surmounted by three towers. Mr. Caine, in his " Picturesque India," thus describes it : " The whole building is elaborately ornamented ; round the exterior base carved in relief are leading incidents of the *Ramâyana* *Mahābhārata* and *Bhagvata*, the termination of each chapter and book being indicated by a closed or half-closed door. The number of sculptured pictures is seventy-four. The workmanship is attributed to Jakanachari, the famous sculptor and architect of the Hoysala Ballala kings, under whom Hindu art in Mysore reached its highest point of excellence. The temple stands in a square cloistered court of great beauty, with entrance porches, and some fine stambhas or lamp pillars."

Peculiar to Southern India are the wild hill tribes, especially the Kurubas, living in the woods of Mysore, with sheds made of branches of trees, as homes. They are governed by a head-man, and subsist on roots, leaves and *ragi* (a coarse grain). Their women are rarely seen; a branch of this tribe live on, and collect honey from the jungle. In some parts the aborigines used to be sold with the land, and be specified in the leases; in other places they were sold or transferred without the land. A man and woman would fetch about £5. The Wokliga tribe, who are very numerous, are the best agriculturists in India, being frugal, industrious, and skilful. Mysore city is situated at the foot of the Charmundi Hill; the streets are broad and the houses large and substantially built, while there are some fine public buildings, as well as the chief palace, the summer palace, and the winter palace. The first of these, which was built in 1800 stands in the fort, and is of modern Hindu style of architecture, the front being painted in brilliant colours. The Dassara Hall is a gallery supported on four carved pillars; it is here the Maharaja appears in state, seated on the wonderful fig-wood throne, overlaid with ivory, which the Emperor Aurangzeb presented to Raja Chekha Dewa in 1699. The ivory is now covered with gold and silver plating, on which are wrought figures from the Hindu mythology. To be seated on this throne constitutes the whole of the coronation ceremony as regards this kingdom. The doors of the principal audience chamber are inlaid with carved ivory and silver. The other important buildings are the Jagan Mohan Mahal, built by the late Maharaja for the reception of European guests—some of the walls are painted with hunting scenes; the Residency Bungalow and the Town Hall. There are also some very fine temples and schools. The Maharaja has another beautiful palace at Octacamund, furnished in

English style, where he spends the summer. His Highness the Maharaja is now about 30 years of age and has three daughters and two sons, the eldest princess being in her twelfth year. As a ruler he has



SIR KANTIRAVA KRISHNA RAJA WODEYAR BAHADUR, THE LATE RAJA OF MYSORE, AND THE FAMOUS IVORY THRONE.

distinguished himself by advocating and taking a deep personal interest in every progressive work for the benefit of his subjects, by whom he

is greatly and deservedly loved. His Highness was also fortunate in having a most able and enlightened Dewan (minister), who in 1883 took the remarkable step of recommending the Prince to summon an annual assembly of representative landowners and merchants from all parts of the province, in order that the objects and measures of the Government might be explained to them, and thus be better known and appreciated. This representative assembly, which is peculiar to Mysore, has been continued under the present Dewan, and has worked so well that it has been enlarged, and the members appointed by the state. The present Minister is also a very enlightened statesman, and has chosen for his colleagues those only who will earnestly advance every movement for the good of the country.

Under this able and liberal government, female education is fast spreading, one of the most notable proofs being the success of the Maharani's Girl School, which occupies a part of the palace, and in which her Highness the Maharani takes a keen and personal interest. Founded in 1881, with the advice and co-operation of the late Dewan, Mr. R. C. Rungacharlee, C.I.E., it started with twenty-eight pupils, which now have increased to six hundred; sixty-five girls receive training in their own homes; there are fifty-five teachers in the school and twenty home instructors; seventy-nine girls receive scholarships. This model institution is under a committee of management, and is now entirely supported by the Mysore Government. Up to the present time there has been no regular system for examination or for granting certificates to teachers, but this matter is now under consideration. The most satisfactory feature of the institution is the large attendance of young married ladies of the Brahminical caste of an age (twenty years) which in other parts of India precludes girls from resorting to public

schools. It is true that in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, &c., young ladies are to be seen at schools, but they are mostly, if not entirely, non-Brahmins, who enjoy a greater latitude of freedom. Mr. A. Narasimaha Iyengar, R.B., through whose exertions to a great extent the school has been founded, and who devotes much time and energy to its advancement, has been appointed superintendent of all the girls' schools in the province. Miss E. A. Manning, Hon. Sec. of the National Indian Association, recently visited Mysore, and thus describes the Maharani's Girls' School: "The whole sight was very beautiful. The hall was decorated with 'auspicious' leaves and lovely flowers, and the rich dresses of the pupils, as well as some of the visitors, rendered the scene most gay and pleasing. The pupils' (mostly silk) *sarees* were not the gaudy colours now frequently seen in India, but of the deep reds and yellows and dark blues which have such a reposeful effect. Many of the girls wear metal belts, and in their hair the small round gold plate usual in those parts, and, of course, chains of gold, bracelets, armlets, clusters of pearls in the ears, and many other jewels. Several of the pupils also performed with much taste on the Hindu instrument called the 'Vina.' Cookery is practically taught, and drawing, needlework, and embroidery, the object being to give 'a healthy moral and intellectual education that would fit a girl to become a model wife and mother, rather than to merely promote a higher standard of study.'" The pupils belong to the higher grade of society, and a home education system has been arranged for supplying instruction in the Zenana to married girls.

The Maharaja, who is an ardent sportsman and splendid horseman, keeps 120 horses for his own use, and 400 dogs for hunting purposes. At the same time, all affairs of state are carefully and punctually attended

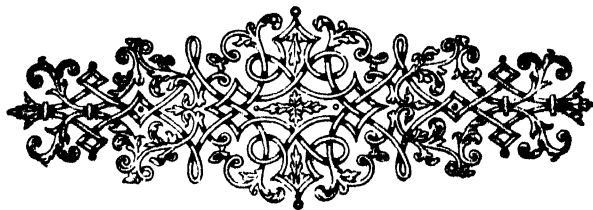
to ; every project for the improvement of the state and the welfare of his subjects meets with his approval and co-operation. Her Highness the Maharani is also an intellectual and well-educated lady, most interested, as before stated, in the progress and advancement of her own sex ; and her daughters, the young princesses, are being educated according to the English system. The famine of 1876-78 materially retarded the progress of the state. The relief fund absorbed the whole of the state surplus funds, which had been accumulating for years under the careful management of the late Dewan ; over a million of inhabitants are estimated to have perished, and 160 lakhs of rupees were expended by the state in mitigating distress ; while over and above this a loan of 80 lakhs had to be repaid to the Imperial Government. In spite of this dreadful calamity, from which it will yet take some years to recover, cultivation is now more than ever widely extended, and encouragement is given to the villagers to become industrious and skilful. The Maharaja himself has a large cattle farm at Hoowoo, where particular attention is paid to the maintenance of the breed of bullocks which are noted for speed and endurance.

That Mysore is one of the best governed states in India, and the Maharaja a thoroughly capable and enlightened ruler, will be indisputably proved by the following figures and statements, copied from the Government report of 1890 :—

RECEIPTS, 1888-89.	RECEIPTS, 1889-90.	EXPENDITURE, 1888-89.	EXPENDITURE, 1889-90.
Rx. 1,328,972.	1,446,931.	1,210,576.	1,291,299.

“ There is evidence in the figures of considerable progress in material prosperity. The extent of land under cultivation is returned at 5,939,840 acres, or 59,520 acres more than in the previous year. The land revenue is in consequence larger than it has ever been before. The

excise revenue has grown enormously—nearly 50 per cent. in five years. The forest revenues are also expanding, so are the receipts from mining leases. The output of the Mysore gold-mine was valued in 1889-90 at Rx. 439,300, on which royalties were paid to the state to the amount of about two lakhs. Meanwhile trade has been going up by leaps and bounds, from 463 lakhs in 1880-89, to 520 in 1889-90. Education is extending ; in 1889-90 there were in the state 2,923 institutions, with 83,278 pupils, the total expenditure on which, from local and municipal funds, and from fees as well as from state revenues, amounted to Rx. 46,586. Public works are being pushed on throughout the state." Mysore is happy in her ruler, and under so liberal a Government the progress already made is certain to continue, and increase every year. Education will spread, and the agricultural and other resources of the country will be developed so that the devastating famines of the past will be an impossibility.





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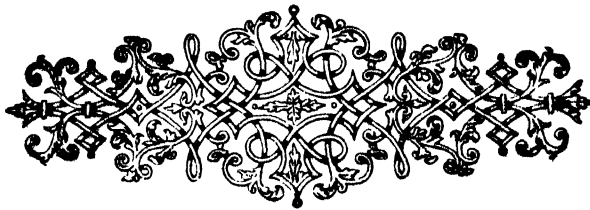
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HIS HIGHNESS VANCHI BALA RAMA VARMA KULASEKHARA KIRITAPATI, G.C.S.I.,  
MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE.

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## TRAVANCORE.

HIS HIGHNESS VANCHI BALA RAMA VARMA KULASEKHARA KIRITAPATI,  
G.C.S.I., MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE.



TRAVANCORE is undoubtedly the most picturesque state in Southern India, although but little known to, or visited by, the modern tourist. Its natural beauties are charmingly diversified, its architectural remains unique of their kind, while the modern buildings, perched on the tops of isolated hills, are models of comfort and elegance. The march of civilisation has been but slow in this state, and has interfered but little with the strange and primitive laws, manners, and customs, which form such a contrast to those of other states. The scenery is beautiful, and in many parts, equal to that of far-famed Kashmir; lofty mountains, clothed with trees of every variety and tint of green, rugged hills and wild gorges, beautiful peaceful valleys covered with luxurious tropical vegetation, fruit growing to an enormous size, and flowers that for beauty and variety might have bloomed in Eden. The very air is laden with the rich odour of spice and fragrant blossoms, —a summer land, ever-blooming, and ever-bright.

A country so favoured by nature, so rich in natural products and minerals, that it is impossible to know to what high position it may not yet attain when civilisation and education have developed its resources, and freed its population from the trammels of superstitious caste and oppres-

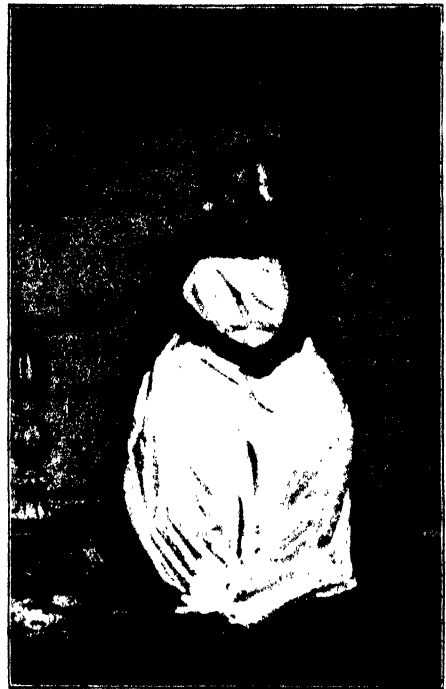
sion. Every class of society and every form of worship may be studied in Travancore. The learned Brahman, and the savage hill tribes, whose only garments are a fringe of leaves, Muhammadans, Jews, and native Christians perform their ceremonies and rites close to the sun and serpent worshippers. The same variety of contrast in the scenery is noticeable also in the people and their religions.

Travancore is a tributary native state in the Madras Presidency, and is bounded on the north by Cochin, on the east by Madura and Tinneveli, and on the south and west by the Indian Ocean. It measures 174 miles from north to south and is 75 miles in its greatest breadth, area 6,730 miles, population 2,401,158 souls, and a revenue of over £600,000. For administrative purposes the state is divided into thirty-two *talukas* or districts. A natural bulwark is formed on the east side by a chain of mountains of great altitude, some peaks of which reach an elevation of 8,000 feet, with plateaux of 7,000 feet ; these plateaux are now being converted into coffee plantations ; nutmeg, cloves, and cocoa plants are also grown ; the richness of the soil being admirably adapted for these products, but the experiment of coffee cultivation has been at times disappointing owing to bad seasons, want of rain, or too heavy rain, so that of late years the area under tea cultivation is much greater than that under coffee ; the demand for labour is improving, the condition of the lower classes and the commercial status of the country are becoming yearly more satisfactory. The sides of the mountains are clothed with miles of forest, while on the level parts, acres of cocoa-nut and areca palms flourish luxuriously. The green valleys and pleasant hills are watered by many rivers, in their course leaving behind them a rich legacy of lakes, which, connected by artificial canals, form an easy mode of navigation and communication. The high

plateaux furnish excellent pasture-land, and vegetables and fruit grow well, and to an enormous size. The forests supply teak, ebony, white cedars, and cotton trees, and amid their dense growth roam the elephant, tiger, leopard, bear, bison, and gigantic elk, furnishing plenty of good but rather dangerous sport ; the ivory of the elephant forms an important part of the state revenue. The mineral wealth of the country is but little



HER HIGHNESS LAKSHMI BHIVE, SENIOR  
RANEE, TRAVANCORE.



HER HIGHNESS PARVATI BHIVE, JUNIOR  
RANEE, TRAVANCORE

known or developed, with the exception of plumbago, but it includes iron, alum, and sulphur. Honey, wax, and cardamoms are largely exported. To give a history of the people of this wonderful little state would be impossible ; they are mostly Hindu, of which there are 420 castes ; there are also Muhammadans, Jews,—whose settlement date back to before the destruction of Jerusalem—Europeans, Eurasians, and native

Christians, the proportion of which, according to the Rev. Samuel Mateer, F.L.S., constitutes Travancore *the most Christian country in India*.

There are fifty-four large towns in the state, the principal being Quilon, the British native military headquarters: it has several fine houses, a palace, temples, public offices, and a population of about 16,000. There is also an English cantonment, a short way from the native town, with an English church, barracks, hospital, and officers' quarters; Nagercoil, noted for having one of the largest Christian churches in Southern India; Aleppy, an important commercial centre and sea-port, and many other places of interest which bear traces of ancient building and shrines of historical fame. Trevandrum, the capital of the state, with a population of upwards of 60,000, is very picturesquely situated about two miles from the sea. The native town and fort lie low and are unhealthy; but the country residences of the Maharaja, the princes, nobles, and European officials are perched on isolated hills over one hundred feet above sea level, commanding a beautiful view of the surrounding country as well as avoiding the miasma arising from too abundant vegetation. The streets have red laterite or mud walls each side of them, and the houses are built without any regard to size or uniformity. A noble residence with balconies and verandahs will have a one-windowed mud hut leaning familiarly against it; then coffee gardens, with the proprietor's house coyly hiding itself from view among the rich foliage and white blossoms; next come shops and sheds, then government offices surrounded by handsome railings. Everywhere palms of all kinds—grown to an enormous height—are intertwined with brilliant flowers and gay shrubs, innumerable wayside shrines and sacred trees. Inside the fort are the palaces of the Maharaja and royal families, and the temple of Padmanábha (Vishnu); here also reside the Brahman and other high

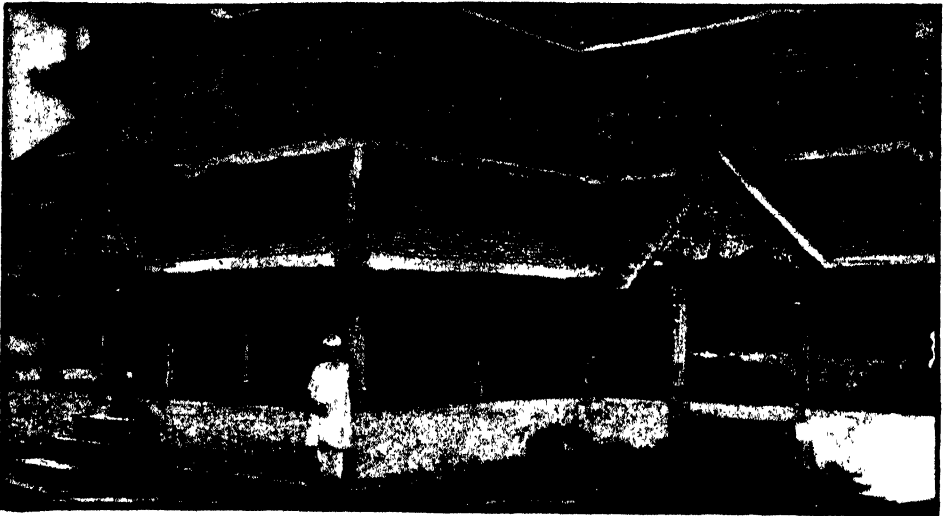
caste families. The entrance is through a gate guarded by an armed sepoy ; the houses of the Brahmas are painted red and white, while the footpaths in front of each house are arranged in imitation of elaborate tiling in black and white, which is washed every morning. The palace is a picturesque but not a striking building ; however, the wood-carving with which it is elaborately ornamented is worthy of notice, on account of its regularity and minuteness. A new palace would long ago have been built, in a healthier situation, had it not been owing to the frequent religious ceremonies required of the Maharaja which have to be performed at the shrine of Padmanábha, necessitating the residence of the ruler to be near the temple. The streets of Trevandrum present novel sights—happy children with little or no clothing, handsome women draped in materials of rich dark blue, or red, or harmonious folds of dark brown and yellow, noisy street sellers, coolies carrying various wares, country people with umbrellas and fans, or beggars, dirty and miserable-looking, farmers driving cattle home, groups of happy-looking girls carrying water, and chattering gaily. Outside the city the scene is equally pleasing—feathery palms and masses of lovely flowers ; gorgeous creepers twine themselves gracefully round the trunks of gigantic mango trees ; the only familiar objects are the telegraph posts ; the road runs through fields of rice or past rich gardens, with here and there shelters for weary travellers and wells for their refreshment.

Travancore is supposed to have been colonised by Brahmans, who ruled until 68 B.C. ; then the Brahmans elected Kshatriya chiefs, who were to rule for twelve years. This system continued for four centuries, and the last one divided his territory among his vassals, whose successors for several centuries continued to govern their different provinces and to wage war against neighbouring chiefs. The Raja of Travancore assisted



the British against Tipu Sultan, and in 1738 entered into a treaty with the East India Company, by which he agreed to pay, in money or in kind, the expenses of a subsidiary force to protect his state. The twenty-eighth chief, Vanchi Bala, Perumal, who came into power in 1747, considerably increased his territory. He kept up a large army, officered by Portuguese, Dutch, and Italians. In 1789 Tipu Sultan invaded Travancore, but was defeated; a few years later the Raja entered into another treaty with the East India Company, through which he had restored to him several districts, and he in return agreed to pay an annual sum towards the support of a military force; he also further agreed not to enter into any engagement with European nations without the consent of the Company, nor to give them settlements in the country; and to assist the English with troops when necessary, the Company to bear the expense of them. The Raja died in 1793, and was succeeded by his son Raja Bala Rama Varma, and he in 1805 signed a treaty to pay for a native regiment a sum—the amount of the present tribute—of £80,000 a year. Several little disturbances occurred, principally because the Raja could not keep up the subsidy; but matters were ultimately arranged, and peace followed, which to the present day has remained unbroken. After Raja Rama Varma's death in 1811, the ruling power was vested in a woman, Lakshmi Rani, who empowered Colonel Munro, the British Resident, to act as her Dewan; and after her death in 1814, her sister Parvati Rani became Regent during the minority of Lakshmi Rani's son, who afterwards ruled for seventeen years and was succeeded by his brother, Martanda Varma, and he in turn was followed by Vanchi Bala Rama Varma, who reigned from 1860 until 1880, to whom the Government granted a sanad for the adoption of nieces to perpetuate the dynasty, and was then followed by his younger brother, Rama Varma, the late

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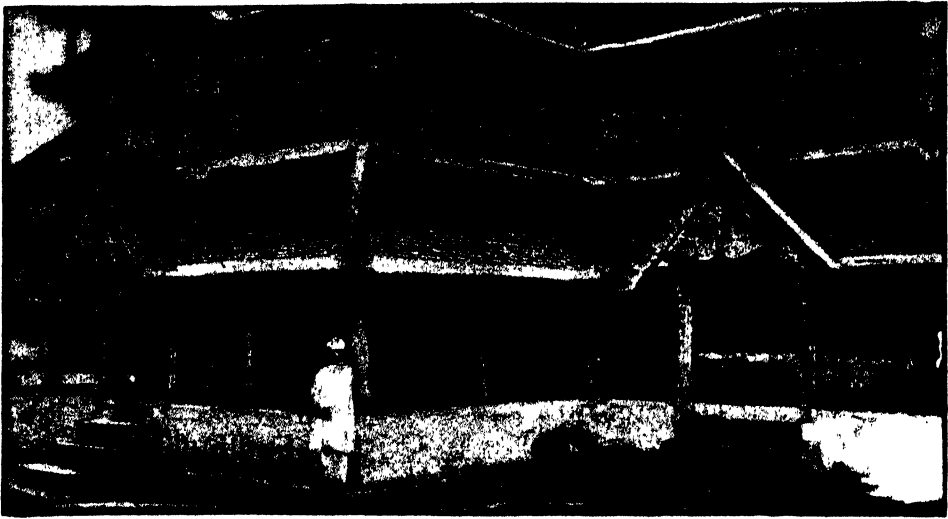
ENTRANCE TO THE PALPANABAPURAM PALACE, TREVANDRUM.

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Dewan), assisted by the then principal of the Maharaja's College. Under the zealous care of these gentlemen, his Highness received a thorough training in all the ordinary branches of an English education ; provision was made at the same time for his acquiring a knowledge of Sanskrit, which is considered an essential part of a Hindu liberal education. The Maharaja writes English with ease, and with a very creditable knowledge of idioms. He has long shown a taste for music, including English instrumental music, and at times has the brigade band at one of his suburban residences to play European pieces to him. The band is entirely composed of natives, with the exception of the bandmaster, who is of European descent, and whose family, for three generations, has held the appointment. His Highness, before he assumed the responsibilities of government, used to be very fond of lawn-tennis, and was a fairly good player, and even now enjoys a quiet game in the courts of the British Resident, or of the officer commanding the Brigade ; he has also been known to find pleasure in being conducted by a European lady partner through the figures of the lancers or the Sir Roger de Coverley. His Highness is a strict observer of all orthodox Hindu religious customs and ceremonies. As a ruler there is no doubt that he willingly accedes to any measure or suggestion made to him for the better government of the state. Since his Highness came to the throne several important reforms have been effected with the assistance of his two successive ministers, the Hon. V. Ramiengar and Rama Row. Under the Maharaja's two predecessors the state made such progress in reforming abuses that it came to be known as the " model state." The minister who first instituted the new departure was Sir Madhava Rao (who was also one of the tutors of the then Maharaja and his brother). This great statesman was made Prime

Minister of Travancore at the early age of thirty, and at a time when the state was in the worst possible condition. Not only was the treasury empty, but the state was in debt and the officials in open rebellion on account of long arrears of salaries. The Maharaja, too, had failed to pay the subsidy to the British Government. A more unenviable position than that of prime minister to an almost ruined state cannot be imagined, but he proved himself to be a statesman and organiser of the greatest ability. He quickly abolished trade monopolies, did away with vexatious taxes and restrictions which hampered the commercial success of the country, and by this so stimulated industry that under his wise rule European coffee and tea cultivators were induced to settle in the state and to buy land. Public buildings sprang up everywhere, roads were laid out, and bridges and canals built, and the state treasury became full, and the grievances of the poor were redressed. The present Maharaja and his ministers can fairly lay claim to having followed up this reforming policy, and to have kept up the good name which the state had gained. His Highness's official and public actions have been guided by a desire to continue and advance in the reforms of late years.

The Maharaja was married before he came to the throne, but his wife died in childbirth. He has one son, who, however, according to the Nepotistic law of the state, does not succeed his father. The heirs are the three sons of his Highness's adopted sister. The Travancore—or rather the Malabar law of inheritance is through the female side of the family, and as the three sons of his Highness's adopted sister just referred to have no sister, through whom the succession might be carried on, there will have to be another adoption to prevent the extinction of the family. The law of Nepotism is one difficult to understand. The succession is

ordinarily from brother to brother, or from nephew to mother's brother or maternal uncle. Where the sister of the Maharaja has only daughters, they succeed in their own right. The two predecessors of the present Maharaja had each sons surviving them, but, like the son of the present ruler, they are only private gentlemen, and are without any distinct public status or rank of any kind. The heir apparent is called "Eliye," or "Junior" Raja, and the next heirs, First, Second, and Third Princes. When one dies the next takes the title. There are several princely families in Travancore that are allied to the Maharaja; the highest in rank are the Mavelikara family, from amongst whom the princesses who are to be the mothers of heirs to the throne are selected. Next come the "Coil Tamburans" or "Lords of the Temple." There are many strange ceremonies peculiar to the country which take place at different periods in the lives of males and females. For instance, princes when they come of age—which is in their sixteenth year—are invested with the "Sacred Thread," which is one of the twelve rites of purification considered necessary to free a man from the taint of sin. This ceremony is entered into with great solemnity, and usually lasts about a week; and from the time of the investiture of the "Sacred Thread" the young prince becomes his own master, with a separate establishment and staff. The next ceremony is marriage, the father choosing a fitting bride for his son; but the most important of all is the accession to the Musnud. For eleven days following the death of a Raja the new ruler lives a life of complete seclusion, and is not proclaimed until the thirteenth day. The new Raja then visits the Shrine of Patmanābhan, where the coronation proper takes place, and where he swears fealty to the God and his representatives the priests, and receives the title of *Sree Ptmanābha Dausa*, which means the servant or slave

of the holy Patmanábhan. The throne is of ivory, with a canopy supported on beautiful pillars of silver ; the crown—the only insignia of sovereignty—is a turban plumed and jewelled, worn by each ruler in succession ; it has the long drooping feathers of birds of paradise, an aigrette of diamonds and emeralds, and two large pear-shaped pearl pendants. When the Raja's crown is placed on his head, he hands his own turban, which he has worn as heir apparent, to the next heir, who then becomes “ Eliya Raja.” After the ceremony and the levée that follows is over, the Maharaja, in his state palanquin, escorted by his bodyguard and followed by his ministers and officials in procession, goes through all the principal streets in his capital.

His Highness the Maharaja rises early, bathes, and then visits the Temple, where he performs his devotions ; the rest of the day is devoted to receiving visitors and transacting state business, while in the evening his Highness has the *Sastui* read to him for an hour, and then he goes for a drive. The food is of the simplest kind—rice, curries, sweetmeats, fruit, tea, coffee, and bread, no animal food being allowable. The royal ladies are hardly ever seen in public, but they are allowed to receive visitors in their own apartments. Their education includes a knowledge of English as well as the vernacular, music, and fancy needlework. Their dress on state occasions is very handsome, but in the bosom of their families of the simplest kind, a cloth folded round the body under the arms and reaching the ankles. The dead are cremated.

Travancore has comparatively no manufactures, but recently a spinning-mill has been erected at Quilon and a paper-mill at Poonaloor ; it is a splendid agricultural country, which it is to be hoped at no very distant day will become the garden of India. Even at the present time, with but comparatively little experience, and implements



of the most primitive kind, the land yields abundantly. Rice, cocoa-nut, and various other palms, and all kinds of fruit-trees flourish and abound; every means is now taken for encouraging cultivators, agricultural exhibitions of cattle and produce are held, and native students have been sent to the Agricultural College at Madras. That the state is not only maintaining its character as a model state, but also distinctly progressing under the present young and enlightened ruler, will be seen by a brief quotation from an able article on Travancore by Mr. R. Harvey, in the October number (1892) of the *Indian Magazine and Review*: "The condition of the people is being gradually ameliorated in various ways ; by the making of roads, building of bridges and other useful engineering works, by the removal of harassing disabilities affecting particular classes of the people, by praiseworthy efforts to bring the more recent benefits of preventive and curative medicine within their reach, and by more efficient and impartial protection of the weak against the strong and unscrupulous, whilst as accompanying their measures and reinforcing them, must be noticed the equally laudable efforts of Government by a wise and liberal educative policy to remove the dense mass of ignorance and superstition in which the great mass of people is enveloped, and of which they are at present frequently the helpless victims." The same authority gives the number of children undergoing education as 104,616, 22,000 of them being girls. There are three kinds of school, (1) those entirely supported by the state, (2) those in receipt of a state grant and under state inspection, (3) those due to private enterprise, and independent of state supervision. In Trevandrum there is an industrial school of arts, where stone and wood carving is taught, and the manufacture of common glazed pottery is being introduced. Trevandrum College and Female Normal School are

doing good work, as is also the Medical School. Besides several hospitals and dispensaries, there is a fine museum erected in the public gardens. The observatory, a fine building built in 1836 from plans and under the superintendence of Captain Horsley of the Madras Engineers, is situated on a hill 195 feet above the level of the sea. The first two astronomers were Mr. John Caldecott and Mr. J. A. Broun, F.R.S. For more than twenty years there has been no European Superintendent, and only the simplest, most routine observations have been made, but recently new interest and activity have been displayed. Mr. A. C. Mitchell, Principal of the Maharaja's College, and a distinguished graduate of Edinburgh University, has been appointed Honorary Director, and has had funds given him to obtain a suitable set of new instruments, and has already secured, through the Royal Society of Edinburgh, of which he is a Fellow, the assistance of the Home Treasury in publishing the valuable set of Magnetic Observations made by Mr. J. A. Broun.

It has been impossible to give more than an outline of the interesting history and peculiarities of this state and its ruler and people, but if the progress of the past few years is as steadily continued in the future, it will occupy an important place amongst the kingdoms of Southern India.

